Mary Robberds.

BRUSSELS

AUTO ITES IENVIIRONS

A GUIDE TO STRANGERS IN THAT CAPITAL

CONTAINING

A description of the Public Buildings, Churches, Palaces,
"Museums, Theatres, Public Walks and Gardens, etc.,

PRECEDE

BY A SUCCINCT HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BRUSSELS.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF

ALP. WAUTERS,

Archivist of the City of Brussels.

2.015

With a map and plates, 2 fr.

Brussels,

PUBLISHED RY C. FROMENT, BOOKSELLER, 84, Montagne de la Cour.

1852

VDDDDD ...



BRUSSELS

AND ITS ENVIRONS,

Being a Guide to Strangers in that Capital,

IMPRIMERIE DE J. H. BRIARD,

Rue Ste-Justine, 31, faubourg de Namur.

Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2016



BRUSSELS

AND ITS ENVIRONS,

BEING A GUIDE TO STRANGERS IN THAT CAPITAL,

CONTAINING

A description of the Public Buildings, Churches, Palaces, Museums, Theatres, Public Walks and Gardens, etc.,

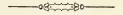
PRECEDED

BY A SUCCINCT HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BRUSSELS.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF

ALP. WAUTERS,

Archivist of the City of Brussels.



Brussels,

PUBLISHED BY C. FROMENT, EOOKSELLER, 84, Montagne de la Cour.

1852



INTRODUCTION.

36

PREFACE OF THE TRANSLATOR.

Among the numerous works that have appeared within these few years as Guides to Strangers in the Capital of Belgium, that of M. Alphonse Wauters, to the merit of its being the most recent may also justly claim that of its being the most ample and the most correct. At the present eventful epoch, amidst the convulsions which have shaken the foundations of surrounding States, this interesting country, rich in her liberal monarchical institutions and government, has, by the sterling good sense of her people, preserved herself free and

unscathed from the contagion of the revolutionary pestilence, which, like the " baleful wind of the Simoom" seems to have spread its deleterious influence over the Continent of Europe. In fact, amidst the lawless anarchy, bloodshed and turmoil of surrounding nations, she presents the aspect of an oasis in the midst of the desert; and if we add to this, her ancient fame, her proximity to England, and the rapid progress which she has made and is every day making, since she has become an independent State under the auspices of the most liberal and popular of monarchs, Leopold; all these considerations combined will, no doubt, operate in attracting to her Capital a vast number of English visitors and residents, as well as other strangers from various parts of the Continent, who may be induced to flock thither as to a city of refuge from the convulsions of surrounding States.

The very recent improvements in and extension of this beautiful city, such as no

other Continental city can boast of, cannot fail to excite the admiration of English and other travellers, as well as prove a powerful inducement to that class of our countrymen who are desirous of residing for some time in a Continental city, to give it the preference over all others, and in particular over Paris, in its ever changing and unsettled state.

The translator of this little work, having resided more than twenty years in the country, may justly claim to have a competent knowledge of his subject, which has enabled him, in the second part of the work, to make several additions omitted in the original, and which include the latest improvements in this City.

The original Work, being preceded by a short sketch (forming the first part) of the history of Brussels, it has been deemed advisable not to omit that portion of it; for although this part may not suit the taste of every reader, yet, it is presumed that it will be perused with pleasure by a great

number, owing to the interesting historical reminiscences which it is calculated to elicit and to illustrate.

The translator, therefore, with the greatest confidence, ushers this little Book to the Public as the *latest*, and consequently the most complete Guide to Brussels extant at the present time.

Edward Weller,

English Professor.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Supposing the Traveller to arrive in Brussels on the Sunday morning, we would recommend the following itinerary of his preriginations during the week. After divine service, a walk in the Park, and, in summer, the Boulevards; and, after dinner, the fashionable drive called the Allée Verte. On Monday he might visit the principal parts of the Town, and especially those where the recent splendid improvements have been made, such as, the new Street St. Jean, the new Market de la Madeleine, close by; the rue Royale, a splendid street, 3/4 of a mile in length and full of handsome buildings, the Place des Martyrs, the Public Library, the Museum, etc. - On Tuesday the Theatres, the Chamber of Representatives and other Public Buildings as well as the Botanic Garden, open to the public on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from 10 to 4. -On Wednesday the Royal Palace, (supposing

His Majesty to be absent,) and the palace of the Duke d'Arenberg. — On Thursday, Waterloo. — On Friday the churches and a trip to Laeken, and on Saturday the numerous etceteras which this delightful City and its vicinity presents.

Although we have traced this slight sketch to direct the stranger on his arrival, yet. after all, we presume that he might prefer to be guided in his choice by the information contained in this little book; as also by the state of the weather, which must, of necessity, regulate his movements.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

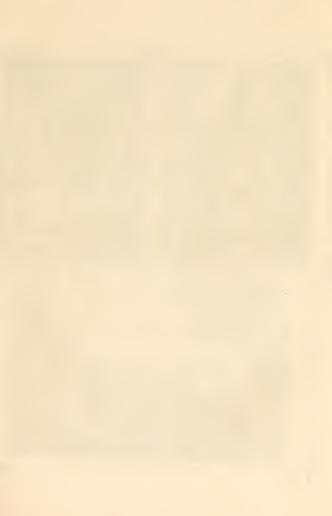
STRANGER'S MANUAL IN BRUSSELS. — Church of England service. — On Sundays at the Chapel Royal, rue du Musée, at 9 a. m. and 1/2 past 2, and a Weekly service on Wednesday mornings at 1/2 past 10, by the Rev. M. J. Blacker, Chaplain to the King; and in the Chapel, on the boulevard de l'Observatoire at a 1/4 to 1 and 1/2 p. 3 in

the afternoon by the Rev. W. Drury, M. A. and at the Evangelical Chapel, rue Belliard, by the Rev. George P. Keogh B. A. under license from the Bishop of London, at 1/2 past 9 a. m. and 3 p. m. — The King's palaces may be viewed during His Majesty's absence; the Museum is open every Sunday, Monday and Thursday from 10 till 3 and on every other day to strangers on producing their passports.—The Duke d'Arenberg's palace daily, by applying to the Porter and producing a passport.—The Town Hall daily from 10 till 5 (gratis.)—The two Houses of Parliament daily, from 10 till 3. — The Botanical Garden (gratis), every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 till 4. -The English reading rooms, 84, Montagne de la Cour, are open from 8 in the morning till 8 in the evening. — The passport office is at the Hotel de Ville and is open daily from 10 till 4. — The London mail arrives in Brussels every day, except Monday. -Departs from Brussels every day, except Saturday, in the afternoon.

Letters for the country are now required to be pre-paid by stamps (Timbres postes) of 10 and 20 centimes, according to the distance; otherwese a surcharge will be demanded of the person addressed.

This may be effected at the Chief-Office, rue de la Montagne, until 1/2 past 7 in the evening. — The only Branch-Offices where letters can be pre-paid are as follow: Rue Pépinière, n. 2, near the gate de Namur; rue du Midi, rue Haute, rue de Flandre and rue Royale, near the Hôtel Cluysenaer. Newspapers must be posted by 1/2 past 4 at the Chief-Office and by 1/4 past 4 at the Branch-Offices. Newspapers sent to England do not require pre-payment, but those for the country and other parts require the payment of 1 centime, which may be effected at the Branch-Offices where pre-payments are received, as well as at the Chief-Office.

Letters for England must be posted before 2 p. m. A second mail will be despatched via Calais, at 6,30. Letters to be posted before 5.45.







CHAIRE DE L'EGLISE DE SE GUDULE COM INTERIEUR DE L'EGLISE DE SE GUDULE



LE PALAIS DU ROI.

A SUCCINCT HISTORY

OF

THE CITY OF BRUSSELS.

The hill upon which the upper part of the City of Brussels is situated (and which is called the Upper Town in contradistinction to the Lower Town) as well as the surrounding country, were, during a long period of time, covered for the most part by wood and marsh. Previous to the invasion of Belgium by Cæsar, they formed a portion of the country of the Nervians, who, according to historical records, conducted thither their families and their flocks, before setting forth for Presles to combat against the legions. Five centuries later, the domination of the Romans in Belgium, already shaken by the disastrous invasions of the people beyond the Rhine, was annihilated by the

Francs, who introduced into the country their customs and their institutions. The Cities, within whose boundaries were comprised what had formerly been the territories of the people of Gaul, were then fractioned into Counties. In this manner was formed, between the Scheldt, the Haine, the Dyle and the Rupel, the county of Brabant, in the Nervia or City of Cambrai.

The kingdom of the Francs, which the conquests of Clovis extended as far as the Pyrenées and the Rhône, was divided, after the death of that prince, into Eastern France or Austrasia, and Western France or Neustria. The Scheldt, in the whole length of its course, separated these two countries. In the seventh and eighth centuries Austrasia was illustrated by a glorious succession of princes, who, after having governed the country as viceroys, under the modest title of major-domos or mayors of the palace, took up arms against Neustria, which they subdued, and covered themselves with glory. It is to the dynasty of the Carlovingians, but principally to Pepin of Landen, that Belgium is indebted for her initiation into the christian faith; christianity, having hitherto been preached only in the towns of Trèves, Tongres, Cambrai and Tournay, was now propagated in the villages and country places. Pepin of Herstal had secured, by his victory at Testry, the independence of Austrasia; Pepin-le-Bref had reaped the fruits of the exploits of his grandfather, by usurping the crown. Charles Martel, son of Pepin de Herstal, had exterminated the Saracens at Poitiers, who had nearly brought under their yoke the whole of Europe. Charlemagne, son of Pepin-le-Bref, subdued the Saxons, a race of people then living in a state of idolatry, and whose success might have retarded the progress of civilization during several centuries. scarcely were the Saxons converted to the Christian faith and Charlemagne descended into the tomb, than another horde of men of the North, or Normans, profiting by the dissentions which had arisen between the descendants of the renowned emperor of the West, rushed on the empire of the Francs, carrying every where with them devastation and terror. The empire is divided into several states, and each powerful baron, taking advantage of the existing anarchy, proclaims his independence. Neustrian Belgium, under the name of the county of Flanders, becomes a fief of the kingdom of France or the Western Francs; the Austrasian portion, wherein the power of the bishops of Liége, as well as that of the counts of Mons, of Namur, of the Ardennes, of Luxembourg and of Louvain, was daily on the increase, was constituted, during a certain period of time, a separate kingdom under the name of Lotheringia, or the kingdom of Lothier; after many vicissitudes it became afterwards subject to the emperors of Germany, who established therein dukes, and afterwards, in 965, divided it into two duchies: viz., Upper Lotheringia, the principal part of which has preserved the name of Lorraine, and Lower Lotheringia, which extended from the Rhine to the Scheldt and from the Ardennes to the sea.

Situated at a distance from the roman roads which led from Bavai to Tongrese and to Batavie, Brussels, in its origin, was only a simple village, which, in all probability was named after a building (sele) built near a marsh (bruec). At an epoch when the neighbouring towns, which it now eclipses, were already become towns of some importance, it had not yet increased its extent. It is only mentioned for the first time in history in the year 706, at which time Saint Vindicien, bishop of Cambrai, died therein. It is indebted for its first aggrandizement to a duke of Lower Lotheringia, Charles of France, son of a king of France, Louis the fourth, surnamed d'Outremer. This prince chose for his residence the castle which was situated between the two branches of the Senne, near the spot where the road from Ghent and Bruges, taking a direction towards Liége and

Cologne, crossed the river. At a very remote period, according to tradition, a chapel had been erected there dedicated to Saint Gery, bishop of Cambrai. Charles de Lorraine, caused to be deposited therein, in 978, the body of Saint-Gudule, who died at Ham near Alost about the year 700. Othon, son of Charles, having died without issue in 1005, Brussels and its dependencies devolved to his sister Gerberge, who had married Lambert le Barbu, Count of Louvain, avowee of the abbeys of Nivelles and Gembloux. Under the sway of the Counts of Louvain, stirring and warlike princes, who were perpetually at war with the emperor and the bishop of Liege, Brussels was raised to the rank of a city, and increased rapidly in extent. In the year 1040 it was encompassed by a wall, built of stone, a massive construction, which seemed to bid defiance to the ravages of time, and of which some considerable portions still remain. Some years after, on the 16th November 1047, the remains of Saint-Gudule were transferred into a new church built on an eminence, in honour of Saint-Michael, the patron saint of the city: on the same day the church was consecrated, and the Count Lambert II annexed to it a chapter of Canons. At the same time the castle near the Senne was abandoned; the counts guitted it to reside in a new manorhouse, situated on the summit of a hill called Caudenberg or Cold-Mount; the adjacent chapel, called Saint-Jacques-sur-Caudenberg served as an oratory, and they appointed as guardians of their residence and of the city, hereditary governors, whose dwelling existed during a long time and was situated between that chapel and the palace. The Borgendael (valley of the castle) which, until the year 1776 had served as a place of refuge for bankrupts, and wherein artisans were permitted to retire for the exercise of their profession without being affiliated to a corporation, was the patrimonial property of these chatelains.

Brussels continued to increase in extent in the same proportion as the power of its princes increased. The seventh count of Louvain, Godefroid le Barbu, created duke of Lower Lotheringia, in 1106, transmitted to his descendants this new title, which was in the thirteenth century changed to that of Duke of Brabant. Nine princes of the house of Louvain, the three Godefroids, the three Henrys, the three Johns, assumed this title in succession. Their hereditary valour, so to speak, rendered them formidable, and the most powerful monarchs sought their alliance. Among the most renowned of these princes was Henry the first, whose long reign of more than sixty years, was an uninterrupted

series of military expeditions. Also is worthy of note John the first, that type of the high and generous chivalry of the thirteenth century; the valiant captain, who at Woeringen effected the dissolution of the league between the count of Luxembourg and the archbishop of Cologne, and who, in a tournament, terminated that life which he had so often risked in battle. the third was in nowise inferior in brilliant qualities to his grandfather; he also proved himself worthy of his ancestors, when he replied by a war-song to the challenges presented to him by the heralds of seventeen princes. bant, at that time, extended south and north, from Nivelles and Gembloux to Heusden and Grave; its western frontier followed the course of the Dendre and bordered on the Scheldt, in proceeding from the mouth of the Rupel towards that river; Hannut, Lannen, the castle of Dormael, Léau, Diest, formed towards the east its first line of defence. In addition to this extensive territory, the dukes were also in possession of Maestricht, jointly with the bishop of Liege; the duchy of Limbourg, the county of Daelhem, the baronies of Rolduc and of Fauquement, with other territories of minor importance; the chief avowry of the towns of Liége, Aix-la-Chapelle, Saint-Trond, etc.

Louvain continued to be, during a long space

of time, the most important city in the country, and always retained the title of capital; the sovereigns of the duchy, up to and including the archdukes Albert and Isabella, were all inaugurated there, but shortly after Brussels became the capital de facto; the dukes, beginning with John the first, resided there constantly, being attracted thither by the salubrity of the air, and the proximity of the forest of Soignes, where they solaced themselves by the pleasures of the chace from the fatigues of their martial exploits, and the anxious cares which the discontented and restless spirit of their subjects caused them. Heretofore there existed no country which enjoyed greater immunities and more extensive privileges than those which they had conferred upon their people. The Joyful-Entry, an inaugural pact, imposed for the first time on the dukes Wenceslas and Jeanne, in 1355, by which the sovereign, on his accession, swore solemnly to maintain the national privileges, is a remarkable manifestation of the love of liberty possessed by the ancient Brabancons. The authority of the prince was limited by the prerogatives of the States and of the Council of Brabant. The former, without whose consent no taxes could be levied, consisted of three orders, the clergy, the nobility and the people: the clergy appear not to have been admitted

into the national representation until towards the end of the 14th century: the nobility, from time immemorial, were constituted the counsellors of the dukes, and formed the chief strength of their armies; as to the people, their representatives began only to be consulted at the end of the 12th century, after the communes had obtained their immunities and franchises. The cities, and especially those of Louvain and Brussels, had possessed, from the 13th century, a considerable influence, and their delegates had obtained, in a short time, the principal direction of affairs. They were at the height of their power in 1312, when John the 2nd established at Cortenberg a council formed of nobles and of the citizens of the principal towns; this council was at the same time a permanent deputation of the States and a supreme tribunal, to which those might appeal who conceived themselves to be aggrieved by the other tribunals or by the agents of the sovereign. The council of Cortenberg had but a momentary existence; a part of its attributions was transferred to the council of Brabant, whose judgment was without appeal, and who were consulted by the government in all affairs relative to the duchy.

The city of Brussels was already flourishing in 1215, when the Count of Flanders, Ferrand,

the Count of Salisbury and the Count of Holland laid siege to it, in order to force the duke Henry the first, to enter into a league with them against his father in law, the king of France, Philippe Auguste, It was this same duke, who conferred on it, in 1229 a Keure or code of criminal law; and, in 1234, a charter regulating the mode of nomination of the authorities of the commune. The patricians possessed all the privileges of the nobility, whilst, at the same time, the commerce in which they engaged became to them a source of riches and contributed to the prosperity of the lower classes. In this manner they constituted the greater part of a corporation called the guild of drapers, a corporation, the freedom of which might be purchased; and whose members trafficked in woollen and linen manufactures. The fabrication of drapery employed a great number of artisans; the quarter of the gate of Anderlecht and the whole of the parish of La-Chapelle was almost entirely peopled, the former by fullers, and the latter by weavers and bleachers. The cloth which they manufactured was of the first quality, considerable quantities of which were sent to Paris, to the fairs of La Brie and even as far as Dauphiny. During a long time the manufacturers were not admitted to a share in the local administration; they endeavoured, in 1506, to obtain new privileges; a riot which took place gave them power during a short period, but, vanquished near Vilvorde on the 1st of May in the same year, they were obliged to submit.

After the death of John the third, in 1355, the disputed succession to the estates of that prince was the occasion of a war between two of his step-sons. Wenceslas of Luxembourg, who had married his eldest daughter Jane, and by virtue of that title had become duke of Brabant, and the count of Flanders, Louis de Maele. The count invaded the territories of his brother in law, and defeated the Brabancons on the hill of Scheut, situated near and to the west of Brussels, on the 17th august 1556: this memorable day, to which the Bruxellois gave the name of black Wednesday, obtained for him the possession of Brussels, Louvain, Antwerp, and almost the whole of Brabant; but he lost the greater part of his conquests almost as rapidly as he had gained them. A patrician of Brussels, named Everard T'Serclaes, scaled the walls of the city at the head of a band of resolute men, and the inhabitants, having joined him, expelled the flemish garrison, on the 24th october 1356. In the other towns a similar movement almost immediately broke out. The facility with which the enemy had penetrated into Brussels,

decided the citizens to impose on themselves great sacrifices to fortify their city and its faubourgs. They then constructed the second enclosure, the circuit of which corresponded nearly to that of the present boulevards. Begun in 1357, this great undertaking was completed in 1379. Whilst it was actively in course of execution, an insurrection of the butchers, weavers, and fullers was suppressed in a cruel manner by the patricians; on the 22d July 1360, a desperate combat took place in several streets and a part of the quarter of La Chapelle was destroyed by fire.

In 1370, the Jews who inhabited Brussels were accused of having poniarded the consecrated hosts, which they had previously sacreligiously stolen from the church of Ste-Catherine, by one of their body who had been recently converted to christianity, named John of Louvain. It was affirmed that the hosts, which the Jews, in their blind and sacreligious fury (after having spread upon a table), had pierced with their poniards, had spouted forth blood upon the assailants. Terrified at this circumstance, they employed a woman, who had also been of their religion, but had embraced the christian faith, to convey away these hosts to some of their bretheren at Cologne. Denounced by this woman, the Jews were apprehended, condemned and burnt to

death on Ascension-day the 22nd of May, on the spot named the Pré-aux-Laines. Some of these hosts were, during a long time, preserved in the church of Notre-Dame de la Chapelle; the three largest were taken to Saint-Gudule, where they still remain.

During the reign of Wenceslas and of Jeanne, and especially after the death of Wenceslas, who died in 1383, the province of Brabant gradually declined; it lost its importance abroad, and intestine feuds of baron against baron, of family against family, and of town against town, disturbed its peace. Everard T'Serclaes, the conqueror of the Flemings in 1356, was assassinated in 1588, by order of Sweder d'Abcoude, for having offered resistance to the increasing power of the lord of Gaesbeek. At the sight of his mutilated body, the whole population flew to arms, and on the following morning the castle of Gaesbeek was beseiged. After having resisted during a month, the garrison at length surrendered and evacuated the fortress, which was razed to the ground. It was during this stormy period that the construction of the Hotel de Ville was projected; it was begun in 1401. A terrible disaster fell upon Brussels in 1405; a part of the church of La Chapelle was burnt by a fire, which destroyed at the same time 2,000 houses and 1,400 weavers' frames.

The duchess Jeanne died on the following year, and left to succeed her in the government of Brabant one of the sons of her nephew, Antoine, brother of Jean-sans-Peur, duke of Burgundy, and grand-son, by the side of his mother, of the count of Flanders. In 1409 was celebrated at Brussels, with great pomp, the marriage of Antoine de Bourgogne with Elisabeth de Moravie, duchess of Gorlitz. The duke, who was always mixed up with the intestine feuds which desolated France, and in which his brother played a principal part, lost his life at the celebrated battle of Agincourt, which was won by the English on the 25th October 1415. The administration of the country was confided by the States to a regency during the minority of his eldest son, John the 4th, whose reign was but a long succession of unprosperous wars, of popular tumults and of revolts. This indolent and pacific prince, after having espoused Jacqueline de Bavière, Countess of Hainaut, of Holland and of Zelande, made no exertions to defend the states of his wife, who possessed a character as manly as that of her husband was feminine. Governed by his favorites, the hearts of the Brabancons were soon alienated from him. At the time that his brother Philippe de Saint-Pol was elected as Ruward, or governor of the duchy, he fled from Brussels, whither he

returned, on the 21st January 1421, accompanied by a numerous retinue of German barons and cavaliers. A revolt, provoked by the insolence of these mercenary foreigners, deprived him once more of his government; his partisans were proscribed, some of them were beheaded; and the trade-corporations, profiting by the revolution, obtained from the count de Saint-Pol on the 11th February 1421, a charter, by virtue of which the magistrature was composed of burgomasters, sheriffs, receivers and counsellors, and which organised in nine classes the trade-corporations, designated to share power with the higher ranks. Such was the origin of the ancient municipal constitution of Brussels, which continued, almost without alteration, up to the year 1795.

Philippe de Saint-Pol succeeded to his brother John the 4th, but his reign was of short duration, it being from 1427 to 1450. His heir was the duke of Burgundy, Philip the Good, who, by a fortunate concatenation of circumstances, reunited under his sovereignty, Brabant, Limbourg, Flanders, Artois, Malines, Hainault, the Namur country, Luxembourg and Holland. These countries, which were already intimately united, constituted, together with Burgundy, a powerful monarchy. The reign of Philip the Good was long and prosperous. The duke, who

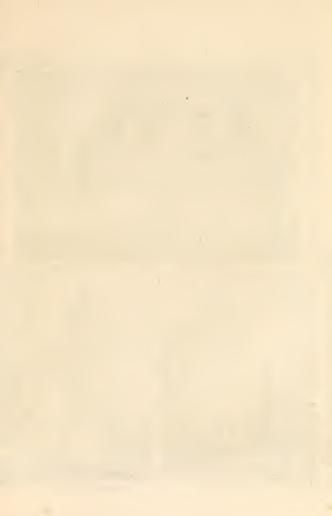
was perpetually surrounded by a numerous court, became the patron of learned men and of artists; his palaces were adorned with the pictures of the Van Eycks and of their pupils, and his libraries with splendid manuscripts, the miniature copies of which still excite admiration. He had a particular affection for the city of Brussels, and gave in it several tournaments; amongst others those of 1439 and 1444. Other fêtes, such as the contests instituted by the company of cross-bowmen, of archers and of rhetoricians, attested the increasing opulence of the citizens, who, although generally of parsimonious habits, displayed in these circumstances a surprising degree of luxury and magnificence. The woollen manufactures were already on the decline: the English, whose country produced wool in abundance, and who, at first, had been ignorant of the method of fabrication, had, from the reign of Edward the third, commenced a competition with this country which became every day more ruinous. On the other hand the weaving of flax and the fabrication of linen cloths were very flourishing; the art of dying woollen cloths, the manufacture of carpets, and the forging of arms, had attained to a great degree of perfection.

Charles the Bold, son of Philip the Good, became redoubtable to his neighbours, but his

gigantic projects, pursued with obstinacy, brought on the ruin of the monarchy which his father had transmitted to him. His despotic character was highly displeasing to his people, and no sooner was it known that he had been killed near Nancy, in a battle against the duke René of Lorraine and the Swiss, on the 5th January 1477, than a general insurrection broke out in Belgium. The king of France, Louis the 11th, took advantage of this circumstance to possess himself of Burgundy and Ar-The daughter of Charles the Bold, Mary of Burgundy, in order to procure for herself a defender against her enemies, married the archduke Maximilian of Austria. It was during these disturbances that the trade-corporations succeeded in annihilating the power of the high er ranks. Maximilian, who had succeeded in checking at the same time the successes of the French and the propagation of democratic principles in the towns, destroyed, in 1480 and 1481, the organization which they had established. The unexpected death of Mary of Burgundy, became immediately the prelude to new commotions. The archduke, having rendered himself obnoxious to the nation, was constrained by the States-General to conclude a peace with the French, and Flanders refused to entrust him with the guardianship of his children. The

States of Brabant were desirous of following the example of their neighbours, but the Archduke struck them with terror, by causing to be apprehended and beheaded some of the most violent of the members of their assembly, on the 21st May 1485. In 1486, during a court dinner which he gave on the occasion of the visit of his father, the Emperor Frederick the third, a violent quarrel arose between the soldiers of his body-guard and the citizens of Brussels, which, after much difficulty, was appeased. At length the antipathy of the Brabancons towards this prodigal prince produced a manifestation in 1488. Brussels, Louvain, Nivelles joined the party of the Flemings, who had again come to a rupture with their sovereign, by proceeding to hostilities against him, under the command of Philippe de Cleves. The people of Brussels especially, fought vigorously against the partisans of the king of the Romans, and did not conclude a peace until after they had exhausted their strength in long and painful struggles. Moreover, they were at that time decimated by a dreadful plague, which, according to the most moderate computation, carried off 15,000 persons in the year 1489.

Belguim recovered from her disasters during the reign of Philippe le Beau, son of Maximilian of Austria and of Mary of Burgundy, who was











Bylonde gardens

ECLISEDY GRAID BECUISACE.

inaugurated Duke of Brabant in 1494. This prince had become king of Spain by his marriage with Jeanne, daughter of Ferdinand, king of Aragon, and of Isabelle la Catholique, queen of Castille. Several of his children were born at Brussels, of whom were the princesses Eléonore, Elisabeth or Isabelle, and Marie, who married; the first, the king of France, Francis the 1st; the second Christiern the 2nd, king of Denmark, and the third, Louis 2nd, of Hungary; the most renowned among them, Charles the 5th, was born at Ghent. King Philippe having died in 1506, the regency of the country was conferred by the Emperor Maximilian on his daughter Margaret of Austria, a princess who was a great promoter of literature and the fine arts. Charles the 5th attained his majority in 1515, and took immediately the reins of government, but having to make long stays in his Spanish dominions, being moreover frequently detained in Germany, after his elevation to the imperial dignity, he was obliged to place in other hands the government of the Low-Countries. This difficult post was given to Margaret of Austria, and after the death of that princess, which took place in 1550, to Marie of Hungary, whose husband had perished in battle against the Ottomans at Mohaez. These princesses were generally surrounded by a brilliant court, and during their administration, Brussels became one of the political centres of Europe. At each visit of Charles the 5th, sumptuous fêtes were given, followed by a meeting of the states-general, which attracted to the capital an immense number of strangers, as was particularly the case in 1549, when the Emperor invited to Belgium his son Philippe and caused him to be recognized as his successor by the different provinces of the Low-Countries. A still more imposing ceremony took place in 1555; Charles, finding himself exhausted by a reign of forty years, abdicated in favour of his son, on the 25th October of the same year, in the great hall of the palace, wherein were assembled the states-general, the knights of the golden Fleece, the members of the council of government, and a crowd of other illustrious personages. He continued, however, to sojourn during some time at Brussels, then quitted that city, accompanied by his sisters Marie and Eleonore, and embarked in Zealand for Spain, where he died in the monastery of Saint-Just in 1558.

His successor, born and brought up in Castille, entertained a marked affection for that country; he quitted Belgium immediately after having concluded with France the peace of Câteau-Cambresis, which was the result of the victories of Saint-Quentin and of Gravelines, where-

in the count d'Egmont covered himself with glory. Brussels, during the first half of the 16th. century, was embellished with several monuments; and, by the indefatigable zeal of one of its magistrates, Jean de Locquenghien, was completed the fine canal of Willebroeck, finished in 1561, after the labours of eleven years. The fetes which took place on the opening of this canal celebrated at the same time the triumph of the Chamber of Rhetoric, named the Garland of Marie, and which had just carried off at Antwerp, from numerons competitors, the prize of the Joyous Entry. An incredible degree of luxury had been displayed on this occasion, but for the last time; the future prosperity of Belguim assumed a gloomy aspect, and her riches were about to be swallowed up in a long and bloody war, productive of the most fatal results to the country.

The progress of the partisans of reform in religion had provoked, on the part of the authorities, measures of repression, which only added fuel to the fire which they endeavoured to extinguish. The Governess of the Low-Countries, Marguerite de Parme, a natural daughter of Charles the Fifth, was impeded in her administration of public affairs by the necessity of being incessantly obliged to have recourse to the government of Madrid, and in being sur-

rounded by counsellers, some of whom approved of rigorous measures, whilst others were inclined towards an entire toleration in religious matters. The king, having at length insisted that the edicts should be put in execution, a great number of the nobility conferred together, and, to the number of about 400, presented to the duchess, on the 5th April 1566, a petition, to the effect that only moderate measures should be resorted to. Whilst the government were deliberating upon the measures that they should adopt, a furious populace abandoned themselves to the most horrible excesses, and in a great number of the towns and villages the churches suffered from the most frightful devastations. Brussels was fortunately preserved from the fury of the iconoclasts or imagebreakers, and in a short time, supported by public opinion, which was decidedly against them, the governess succeeded in reestablishing order and in forcing into submission the revolted towns. The greatest tranquillity reigned in Belgium, when on the 22nd August 1567, the duke of Alba arrived at Brussels, at the head of a numerous army and charged with a mission of vengeance. Amongst the number of men of rank whom he brought to the scaffold, and who were the most regretted, were the counts d'Egmont and de Horne, who were





beheaded on the Grand'Place on the 5th June 1568.

The duke of Alba still further increased the hatred which his impolitic fury had excited against him, by demanding the vote of oppressive taxes. But an energetic resistance was opposed to his fiscal measures, and when he issued his orders to levy the tenth denier on all provisions and merchandise which should be exposed to sale, the inhabitants chose rather to close their shops than comply. In a paroysm of rage, the duke was preparing to take speedy vengeance, by the hanging of a great number of the notabilites of the city, when, on the 5th April 1572, arrived the news of the capture of the town of Brielle in Holland. This circumstance operated as a diversion to his furious projects, by obliging him to turn his attention towards the northern provinces, where the revolt had, in a short space of time, made rapid progress, and he laid siege to Mons, which the count Louis de Nassau had just taken by surprise. The king, at length began to perceive that the cruelty of his lieutenant alienated from him every day more and more the hearts of even his most zealous subjects. He recalled him, and sent in his place don Louis de Requesens, who displayed more moderation, but who died, after having governed the Low-Coun-

tries for the space of two years and a half. His death was the occasion of a state of general anarchy. On hearing the news that the mutinous soldiers were roving over the country and committing every where frightful ravages, the entire population of Brussels took up arms, and the states of Brabant ordered the levy of national troops. Meanwhile the members of the council of state, who were, for the most part, suspected by the people, were arrested in the palace on the 4th September 1575, whilst they were in the act of deliberating. Negotiations were then opened with the northern provinces, and with the prince of Orange, William the Taciturn, who had placed himself at their head.

The necessity for adopting measures of defence against the Spanish bands, brought about the signature of the *Pacification of Ghent*, by which all the provinces of the Low-Countries were constituted into a single confederation: this took place on the 8th November 1576.

After some hesitation and after having concluded, on the 9th of January following, a new alliance, which was named the Union of Brussels, they recognised as Governor-general Don Juan of Austria, a natural son of Charles the Fifth, whom the king had invested with this dignity, and who had covered himself

with glory at the naval battle of Lepanto, wherein the christian fleets had conquered those of the Ottomans. He made a magnificent entry into Brussels, on the 1st May 1577, but in a short time a complete scission took place between him and the States. He quitted Brussels suddenly, where his intentions were suspected and his servants and guards insulted. Determined to maintain his power by force, he took by surprise the citadel of Namur, and assembled therein the few soldiers that remained to him.

From Namur Don-Juan recommenced negotiating with the States, but the terms which he proposed being considered as extravagant, both parties prepared for war. The prince of Orange was requested to repair to Brabant, as at the same time was the archduke of Austria, Mathias, whom, a part of the nobility wished to employ as a check upon him, but who, young and inexperienced, became only a tool in the hands of William the Taciturn. Scarcely had Mathias and William taken the oaths at Brussels, the former as governor general, and the latter as Ruwart or governor of Brabant, than the battle of Gembloux, gained by Don-Juan, on the 31st January 1578, forced them to quit Brussels, now become a frontier town, for Antwerp, where they were in greater safety. The success of the

king's arms proved less fatal to the national cause than the excesses to which the calvinists of Flanders, and more especially of Ghent, abandoned themselves; they renewed the scenes of the year 1566, whilst, on their part, the Wallon provinces formed a league for the defence of the catholic religion. During the period that the separation of the northern from the southern part of the Low countries was being effected, the prince of Parma, successor to Don-Juan, skilfully took advantage of the faults of his enemies. On the 19th May 1579, he received the submission of Hainault, of Artois and of French Flanders. In the other provinces, several of the nobles associated themselves to him, and one among them, the count Philippe d'Egmont, son of the great Lamoral, endeavoured to take Brussels by surprise; he succeeded in effecting an entrance into the city, but was stopped in his march by the garrison and the inhabitants, he esteemed himself fortunate in being enabled to guit the city with his troops, on the 4th, 5th, and 6th June 1579.

In every place which refused to submit to the authority of Philip the 2nd, the calvinists, protected by the troops in the pay of the States, assumed the ascendancy; at Brussels, some of the churches were pillaged, others given over to the reformed preachers, and, at length, the ca-

tholic worship was absolutely interdicted, on the 1st May 1581; the clergy driven away, and the convents closed. This violent state of things could not long endure; the prince of Parma gained victory upon victory, and reduced, the one after the other, all the towns of Belgium. Abandoned to its own resources, the city of Brussels maintained a long and glorious struggle in order to keep up its communications with Flanders and Antwerp. Its garrison, commanded by Oliver Van den Lympel, baron of Corbeck, took possesion successively, in 1580, of Nivelles, of Ninove, of Malines, of Diest; in 1582 of Alost; in 1583 of Braine-le-Comte. But it lost in a short time all its conquests, except Malines. At length, in the year 1584, the prince of Parma took possession of Termonde, of the fort of Willebroek and of Vilvorde. Become master of these posts, he subjected Brussels to a rigorous blockade, which soon began to experience all the horrors of famine. The whole of the citizens, without any distinction of parties, then resolved to submit; the garrison, indeed, held out during a long time, but the distress becoming every day more and more terrible, and no hope of assistance presenting itself, a deputation was despatched to the prince of Parma. They obtained from him the terms of a capitulation, sufficiently favorable, which

was signed on the 10th March 1585, at Beveren, in the country of Waes.

Alexander Farnese, after having received the submission of Brussels, pursued his successes in the southern provinces of the Low-Countries, but neither himself, nor the princes and generals who succeeded him, were able to penetrate into the northern provinces, which were better defended by nature. Brussels once more became the fixed residence of the Governor-general, of his court, and of the councils of government; and by degrees it recovered the losses which nine years of anarchy had caused it. Commerce and industry began again to revive. The religious edifices which had been destroyed or damaged during the disturbances, were either rebuilt or repaired. A state of security was again established in the country places, where had previously reigned the most frightful misery, combined with the ravages of the most unbridled plunder.

After the death of the prince of Parma, which happened on the 4th December 1592, king Philip the 2d, appointed to the government of the Low-Countries, the Archduke Ernest of Austria, brother of the Emperor Rodolph the 2d. This prince made a magnificent entry into Brussels on the 30th January 1594, but was taken off by a premature death on the night from the 20th

to the 21st of February in the following year. He was replaced by his brother, the Archduke Albert, cardinal archbishop of Toledo, who arrived at Brussels on the 11th February 1596. At the close of his career, Philip the 2nd, for the purpose of securing tranquillity to his Belgian provinces ceded them to his daughter the Infanta Isabella. This princess was destined in marriage to the archduke, who had renounced the ecclesiastical state. After having received the oaths of the States-General, assembled in the great hall of the palace, on the 23d August 1598, Albert set out for Spain, received the hand of Isabella at Valence, on the 18th April of the following year, and returned with her into the They made their solemn entry, on th 5th September 1599, by the Porte of Lou-In 1600, they assembled at Brussels the States-General in order to fix the subsidies that the provinces were to pay; in 1611, they caused to be drawn up the Perpetual Edict, for the regulation of some particular articles of jurisprudence. The establishment of Monts-de-Piété took its rise also in their reign, which lasted 21 years, during the whole of which time Brussels enjoyed a complete tranquillity, with the exception of some slight disturbances, which took place in 1619. The archduke Albert died on the 15th July 1621, and magnificent funeral cere-

monies were celebrated for him on the 12th March following. As he had died without issue, Belgium was again constituted a Spanish province, which the Infanta continued to govern. Isabella, who, by her affability had made herself beloved by her people, was more especially cherished by the people of Brussels, in whose public games she deigned to participate. In 1615, at the annual competition of the company of cross-bow shooters, she had brought down the bird with her own hands, and received, according to custom, the title of Queen of the company. But her latter years were not happy. The war with the northern provinces of the Low-Countries, which formed at that time the Republic of the United provinces, had been suspended, in 1609, by the conclusion of a twelve years' truce; it recommenced, in 1621, and, after a few partial successes, presented only a series of defeats. The enemy, having taken Bois-le-Duc and Maestricht, the country was on the very brink of ruin; a party, in league with the foreigner, was preparing a revolution, but this attempt failed of success, as well as the negotiations opened with Holland by the States-General, which had been summoned to meet in Brussels, in October 1652. In the very midst of these difficulties, the Infanta died on the 30th November 1653. The Cardinal Infant,

Ferdinand, archbishop of Toledo, arrived at Brussels on the 4th November 1654, and governed during some years in the name of Philip the 4th. By means of some successful battles he was enabled to improve the fortunes of Belgium, but after his death, which happened on the 9th November 1641, the situation of the country continued to grow worse, until the treaty of Munster, on the 50th January 1648, by which Spain recognised the republic of the United provinces, and until the peace of the Pyrenees, concluded with France on the 7th November 1660.

During the second half of the 17th century popular commotions were frequent in Brussels. The misgovernment of the governors-general sent by Spain, the system of plunder to which the troops, almost always ill-paid, had addicted themselves, the state of abandonment in which the country was left by its princes, degenerate descendants of Charles the 5th, all these causes combined, would, at any other epoch, have brought about a general insurrection. But Belgium was plunged into a sort of marasmus; she shewed no longer any signs of life, either political or literary; her commerce was nearly annihilated, her industry continued to decline, as well as that school of painting, which from the time of Rubens under the reign of the arch-dukes, had shone with such a brillant lustre. The greater part of the towns of the Spanish Low-Countries lost their ancient splendour; Brussels alone, being the residence of the Court, and wherein some branches of industry flourished, such as the manufacture of camlets, of tapestry, of lace, of carriages, formed the only exception to this rule; and for this reason the trade-corporations still continued to manifest a considerable degree of energy in defending their rightst, and privileges. In 1637, 1661, 1670, 1675, 1680, 1681 and 1684, there were serious disturbances, and the question was several times mooted in the government councils whether it would not be better to choose some other city than Brussels for a capital.

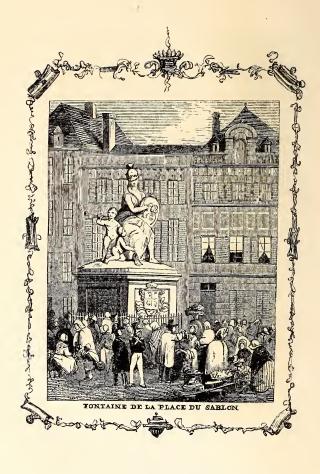
The wars which were then carrying on against France, by the anxiety which they caused the imperial authorities, prevented them from taking so important a decision. Louis the 14th had, for the first time, in 1667, declared war against Spain and unexpectedly invaded Belgium. It was during this invasion that the plague raged in a cruel manner at Brussels and carried off 4,046 persons. At this epoch the fortresses of the city were considerably augmented and a fort was erected near the Porte de Hal, on an eminence to the south of the church of St-Gilles, which was named Fort Montery, after the governor of that name, in 1672. Hosti-

lities recommenced three different times, in 1675, 1685 and 1690. For more than a century Brussels had not seen an enemy at her gates, when, on the 11th August 1695, the french army, commanded by the Marshall de Villeroi, encamped on the hill of Scheut, which commands a view of the whole city. A bombardment, as terrible as it was fruitless, commenced on the 13th and was prolonged to the 15th. This barbarous execution was perpetrated for the purpose of causing the allies to raise the siege of Namur. It converted the whole centre of the capital, with the exception of a few edifices, into a heap of ruins; 5,830 houses were burnt and 460 seriously injured; the damage which it caused, amounted, according to a very moderate calculation, to 22 or 25 millions of florins. A few years sufficed for the burghers to repair every trace of this great disaster. There then arose on the great Market and in its vicinity splendid structures adorned with pilasters, medallions, gildings, and other ornaments, producing a dazzling effect although not in a very pure taste. The bombardment, having thrown down the Tour du Miroir in the Herb-Market. which led to the discovery of ancient privileges long since forgotten, proved the indirect cause of serious commotions, which were only terminated in 1700.

The king of Spain, Charles the 2nd, having no children, disposed of his dominions in favor of the duke of Anjou, Philip, grand-son of Louis the 14th. The inauguration of this prince, as duke of Brabant, took place at Brussels on the 21st February 1702. England, the United Provinces, and the Empire, jealous of the increasing power of the french monarchy, entered into a league for the purpose of giving the Spanish monarchy to the Arch-duke of Austria, Charles, brother of the Emperor Joseph the 1st. Led on by the English General Marlborough and by the Prince Eugene de Savoie, their troops gained a victory over the French at Ramillies, and after that possessed themselves of Brabant and of Flanders. Brussels, wherein Marlborough had entered on the 28th May 1706, was besieged in the month of November 1708 by the elector of Bavaria, who had with him some french and spanish troops; the approach of the allied army forced him to retire precipitately. The peace of Utrecht, concluded on the 13th July 1713, secured to Austria the possession of the catholic Low-Countries.

The first years of the reign of the Emperor Charles the 6th, were troubled by the opposition which he met with in the different corporations of Brussels on the subject of a vote of subsidies. Discontented with a new regulation which,





in 1700, had remodelled their organisation, they energetically refused to take the oath of observance of them, the populace pillaged the houses of some individuals who had been pointed out to them as enemies of the people, and the head of the government, the Marquis de Prié, whose conduct, at once both haughty and undecisive, had been one of the principal causes of the revolt, yielded to their claims on the 25th May 1718. Nevertheless, the public excitement continued to increase, and in the midst of these disorders they sacked the Chancellery, where the Council of Brabant held their sittings. Forced to tolerate these excesses, because he was powerless to punish them, the Marquis thought only of vengeance as soon as he was able to concentrate a sufficient body of forces at Brussels. The heads of the municipality who were the most deeply implicated were, in an infamous manner, drawn into a snare, and cast into prison. of the number were banished; sentence of death was pronounced against the fifth, François Agneessens, a chair-maker, and syndic of the corporation of Saint-Nicolas, a learned and upright old man, whose only offence was that of having too zealously defended the privileges, which he looked upon as a birth-right devolving to him, which he was not at liberty to sacrifice. He suffered death with resignation and courage

on the 19th September 1719. His memory is still held in veneration by the people, who witnessed with a stern despair the punishment of the last of their tribunes.

To Prié succeeded the archduchess Marie-Elisabeth, whose administration was sterile in events: only one circumstance of her reign merits notice; this was the fire which, in 1751, destroyed the ancient palace of the Dukes of Brabant. The splendid mansion of Nassau, now the Museum, became then the residence of the Governors-general of the Low-Countries. Marie-Elisabeth died on the 26th August 1741, and was succeeded by the duke Charles-Alexandre de Lorraine, and by his consort the Archduchess Marie-Anne, sister of the reigning empress Maria-Theresa. These princes arrived at Brussels on the 26th March 1744, but were soon sepa-Charles de Lorraine departed to take the command of the Austrian armies, leaving in Belgium his wife, who died on the 16th December in child-bed. In the following year the Low-Countries were invaded by the French. Under the command of the Marechal de Saxe they invaded Brussels on the 29th January 1746, and took possession by capitulation on the 25th of the ensuing month. The French remained masters of the country for the space of three years, during which time King Louis the 15th





paid several visits to Brussels, the most remarkable of which were those of the 4th May 1746 and the 51st May 1747. He took up his abode in the palace of Arenberg. After the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, Brussels was evacuated by his troops, to the great joy of the inhabitants, whom the conquerors had overloaded with taxes.

To this period succeeded thirty years of a profound peace; an epoch sterile in events for the historian, but an epoch of prosperity to Belgium. Prince Charles, who proved himself a worthy representative of the Empress at Brussels, was adored by all classes; the love which they bore him displayed itself in a striking manner on the occasion of his illness, in 1766; the day on which he went out from his palace for the first time, was a grand fête to the whole population. In 1769, was celebrated by public rejoicings the jubilee of the 25th year of his government, and the States of Brabant resolved to erect a statue to him, which was placed, on the 17th January 1775 on the Place Royale. This Place, as well as the Park and all the buildings which surround it, date from this epoch; it was erected on the site occupied by the ancient palace with its dependencies. Industry and the fine-arts, which during a whole century had been on the decline, again revived

in some degree, thanks to the encouragements which were bestowed upon them. Towards the year 1780, Brussels contained 10,669 houses and 74,427 inhabitants. The death of Prince Charles, which happened at Tervueren on the 4th July 1780, was soon followed by that of Marie-Theresa, on the 29th November 1780.

Joseph the 2nd, a short time after his accession to the throne, visited Belgium, which since the death of Albert and Isabella had not been honoured by the presence of its sovereigns. He came to Brussels, on the 2nd June 1781, and remained till the month of July, for the purpose of examining the state of the country, before commencing the innovations, civil and religious, which he had contemplated introducing into the administration. The establishment of liberty of conscience, the suppression of a great number of convents, the abolition of the confraternities, of the kermesses, and a number of other similar measures, were successively decided; these measures met with but a feeble opposition, but the decrees of the 1st January 1787, which, by entirely reconstituting the administrative order and the judicial organisation, and destroying thereby all the guarantees which the ancient tribunals afforded, excited a feeling of general discontent. The States and the council of Brabant presented remonstrances to the

Governors-general, and the corporations of Brussels having followed them in the lists, the government annulled these edicts, whilst at the same time the burghers, led on by the advocate Henri Vandernoot, organised themselves in a military manner. Joseph the 2nd, persisting in his projects, refused to ratify the concessions which had been granted by his representatives. Resolved to prosecute his measures in a vigorous manner, he sent to Brussels in the month of December, as commandant at arms, the General d'Alton. From that time commenced a constant struggle between the supreme authority on the one side, and the States and the council of Brabant, on the other; at length, not being able to overcome the resistance of these two bodies, the government determined on dissolving them, which purpose it effected on the 18th June 1789.

From that moment civil war became inevitable. A great number of persons of consideration emigrated; whilst, at the same time, the prisons were filled with suspected individuals; an army of malecontents assembled on the frontier, and under the command of Vandermeersch repulsed victoriously, at Turnhout, the general Schræderer on the 27th October. The general defection of the provinces was favorable to the successes of the patriots, and even at Brussels, the

Austrians were attacked on the 10th December, and forced on the the 12th to quit the city. They withdrew themselves to Luxembourg, which alone had remained faithful to the Emperor. But the conquerors were shortly disunited by party divisions: the nobility and the clergy insisted on the maintenance of their privileges; the middle classes demanded the reform of their institutions. The nation was divided into two factions which, after the names of their chiefs, were denominated the Vandernootists and the Vonckists. The latter, the least numerous, were designated to the people as anti-religious, and partisans of the ideas of the Emperor. In a popular disturbance which commenced on the 15th March 1790, the lives of those of most consideration among them were menaced, and their houses pillaged by the populace. The sovereign congress, delegated by the States-General, which had tolerated these excesses, was in possession at that time, of an undisputed authority; but the incapacity of the men whom they placed at the head of the administration and of the army, alienated from them the good opinion of the public and was productive of continual reverses. It was from these causes that the successes of Marshall Bender, sent into Belgium by the brother of Joseph the second, the Emperor Leopold the second, were

easily and rapidly obtained. This General entered Brussels without resistance, on the 5d December 1790.

No sooner was the Austrian domination reestablished in Belgium, than it was overthrown by the French armies, into whose power the battle of Jemappe delivered the country, wherein Joseph the second had previously dismantled all the fortresses, with the exception of Antwerp and of Luxembourg. On the 13th November 1792, Dumouriez defeated at Anderlecht the rear-guard of the enemy, and on the following day he made his entry into Brussels; but four months were scarcely elapsed when he was defeated in his turn and reduced to the necessity of abandoning his conquest, as the French, who were at first welcomed as liberators, had rendered themselves odious to the people by their contempt for the customs of the country and by their spoliations. They guitted Brussels on the 23d March 1793. On the 10th April 1794, the Emperor Francis, who had come to Belgium for the purpose of stimulating the ardour of his troops, and to reestablish the union of the general allies, was inaugurated on a magnificent stage, erected on the steps of the Church of St.-Jacques-sur-Caudenberg; immediately afterwards he set out for Germany. His departure was immediately followed by the

battle of Fleurus, wherein the allied troops were entirely defeated by Jourdan, whilst, at the same time, Pichegru was invading Flanders. Hard pressed by the republicans, the allies were a second time driven out of Belgium, which was now destined to follow, during a space of twenty years, the destinies of France.

The republic, which at the time of the conquest by Dumouriez, had treated the Belgians rather as allies than as a conquered people, now began to use the rights of victory. It imposed on the privileged classes and on the rich enormous taxes; Brussels, in particular, wherein its arms had penetrated on the 10th July, was mulcted in a contribution of five millions; requisitions without number, the forced circulation of assignats, the maximum, plunged into distress a country heretofore so flourishing. The administration of Belgium was afterwards modelled on that of France; institutions, laws, priveleges, civil and religious corporations, all were abolished. The municipality of Brussels was reorganised, on the 1st florial, year III of the republic (20th April 1795); corresponding to the ancient divisions, into provinces, mayoralties, provostships, etc., which was changed, on the 14th fructidor, year III (31st August 1795), into departments and cantons. Brussels

became the principal city of the department of the Dyle and formed of itself a canton.

The elevation of General Napoléon Bonaparte to the consulate opened both for France and Belgium a new era of calm and of prosperity. Napoléon, equally great in war and in peace, visited Brussels in the year XI (1803), where magnificent fêtes were prepared for his reception. He returned a second time in the month of September 1804, immediately after he had been proclaimed Emperor of the French, and made a third visit to the capital of the Low-Countries, in 1810. But the colossal power which he had raised up had too many enemics. either open or secret, to permit it to be of long duration. The disastrous campaign of Russia annihilated his magnificent army; that of 1813, wherein defection neutralised his efforts, conducted the allies towards the Rhine, and in a short time France was herself invaded. Brussels witnessed the entrance of the Cossacks, on the 1st February 1814. Belgium, thus becoming separated from France, was then given as an increase of territory to the United Provinces, which had acknowledged for their hereditary sovereign, prince William of Orange-Nassau. William made his entry into Brussels on the 30th August; he was proclaimed king of the Low-Countries on the 17th May 1815. The battle

of Waterloo, won, on the 18th June of the same year, by the allied generals, Wellington and Blucher, over Napoléon, who had reseated himself on the throne of France, consolidated his government, and he was inaugurated at Brussels, on the 21st September following. Under his reign, Brussels was considerably embellished and improved, and industry and commerce increased to an immense extent; but the manifest partiality of the king for his subjects of the northern provinces, whose language he endeavoured forcibly to introduce into the southern provinces, effected between the two principal parts of his dominions a moral scission, which only waited for a favourable moment to manifest itself in action. The revolution commenced in Brussels, on the night of the 25th to the 26th August 1830, by a partial insurrection. Attacked afterwards by considerable forces, the inhabitants resolutely defended themselves, and after a sanguinary combat which lasted during four days, from the 23d to the 26th September, they forced their assailants to retreat. This victory was followed by a general insurrection which spread over all Belgium; the Dutch troops, after having been defeated in several combats in the neighbourhood of Antwerp, at length evacuated the whole country, with the exception of the citadel of that city. A provisional government was established and a national congress convoked, which bestowed on the country a constitution with the most extensive liberties, and which invited to the Crown Prince Leopold of Saxe-Cobourg. He made his entry into Brussels, on the 21st July 1851, and was inaugurated king of the Belgians, on the same day, on an ampitheatre placed in front of the Church of Saint-Jacques-sur-Caudenberg.

SITUATION. - CLIMATE. - POPULATION.

The City of Brussels is situated in the centre of a fertile country, partly in the valley of the Senne, and partly on a hill which presents an ampitheatre, and facing the west. It is from 50d, 51, 10 m. north latitude and 2d, 2, 0 m. east latitude (meridian of Paris); the climate is generally temperate, but rather cold than otherwise, and the temperature variable. The upper part of the town is more salubrious than the lower part, which is frequently covered with mists arising from the Senne. This river, which proceeds from Hainault, and afterwards joins itself to the Rupel, forms in its course several small islands. It inundates every year the meadows on its banks, and fertilises them to a considerable degree by the slime deposited by its waters.

The city extends over a superficies of 450 hectares; its population, which in the fifteenth century did not exceed 48,000 souls, and which reckoned, in 1783, 74,427, has considerably increased within the last 30 years, after having suffered an enormous diminution during the french domination. It was reduced to 66,297 inhabitants in 1800; it had increased to 98,279 in 1829, and to 113,297 in 1842; the present population of Brussels, including the garrison, strangers, etc., may be estimated at 130,000 souls, but to be the better able to appreciate its increase of population, it must be observed that its faubourgs, formerly small villages, are now become as towns, which altogether contain more than 75,000 souls. Brussels is divided into 8 sections, and contains 13,500 houses.

DESCRIPTION OF BRUSSELS.

AND ITS ENVIRONS.

Public walks. — Squares. — Streets.

THE BOULEVARDS.

One of the finest ornaments of the capital is its line of boulevards, constructed on the site of the fortifications, which date from the years 1357 to 1379. This promenade is composed of three and, in some places, of four rows of trees, the most part elms and poplars. Elegant houses and gardens face nearly the whole length of it. At different points of view, on the side facing the country, the eye is presented with a number of magnificent prospects. Amidst the edifices which embellish it, is seen the

Botanical Garden; St. John's Hospital faces it; the Observatory, the palace of the Prince of Orange, the Hospice Pacheco, the Abattoir or Public Slaughter house, and the Custom house. The construction of the boulevards. by virtue of an imperial decree, of the 19th May 1810, commenced in March 1818, and was completely finished in 1840. There are thirteen gates around the town, namely; the gates of the Allée-Verte, Laeken, Cologne, Schaerbeek, Louvain, Léopold, Namur, Charleroy, Hal, Anderlecht, Ninove, Flandre, and of the Canal. There have been also recently established two new gates, between the Porte de Namur and the Porte de Léopold; as also Porte Louise between the Porte de Namur and the Porte de Hal.

Of the old gates, only one remains, viz; the Porte de Hal, which by its massive and imposing appearance, contrasts singularly with the modern buildings that surround it.

THE ALLÉE VERTE.

The eastern dyke of the canal from Brussels to Willebroeck, from the town as far

as to the bridge of Laeken, was from time immemorial planted with trees. It was widened in 1704, and is now shaded by four rows of old lime trees. During summer it is a charming walk, and in the afternoon, especially on Sundays, it is crowded with carriages and horsemen.

THE PARK.

The Park was planted after the plan of Zinner in 1774. It is nearly of a quadrilateral figure. There are twelve busts of roman emperors in it. At the foot of the terrace are four statues: one a copy of Apollo, by Janssens; a Venus, by Olivier; Thetis and Leda, by Vanderhaegen, of Malines. Near the Green Basin, are seen Diana and Narcissus, fine statues in white marble, sculptured by Grupello; two groups by Lejeune, Meleagre attacked by the wild boar, and Meleagre conqueror. Facing the palace of the King is placed St. Marie-Madeleine, a fine production by Jérôme Duquesnoy, Charity, by Vervoort, Venus sailing on her shell, etc. On the north side of the Park is the little theatre, where vaudevilles are

performed, and attached to it is the café of Wauxhall.

A band of military music plays in fine weather, on Sundays a 1 o'clock, in the kiosk, situated in the centre of the park.

The Park is surrounded by four large streets,—la place des Palais, les rues Du-

cale, de la Loi, and Royale.

Considerable improvements have been recently made in the Park, particularly in those parts of it called the Bas-Fonds, which are two in number, situated on the southern side and facing the King's Palace. These Bas-Fonds, which, during the revolutionary struggle in 1830, afforded a place of refuge to the Dutch soldiers from the fury of their assailants, were, until within a short period, suffered to run waste, and thereby rendered impervious to the public. Now, they present a different appearance, the ground having been cleared of the underwood, and of a small portion of the trees, which were too numerous, and the grass trimmed, as well as sloping walks cut out, proceeding from different points and merging to the centre at the bottom. In the upper one, at the eastern extremity and nearest to the





Palace of the Prince of Orange, is a small basin and fountain, on the brink of which, as history records, Peter the Great, in his visit to Belgium in the year 1717, partook of a repas champêtre, in company of the principal notabilities of Brussels; it is added, that the Emperor in a gay moment in the midst of the festivity, emptied a glass of wine into the basin, as a libation to the nymph of the fountain; and the following inscription, which is now to be seen, cut in the edges of the basin, confirms the fact:

« Petrus Alexowits, Czar, Magnus Muscovæ Dux, in sidens margini hujus fontis, aquam illius nobilitavit libato vino, hora post meridiem tertia, die 16 Aprilis, Anni 1717.

« Peter Alexowits, Czar, Grand Duke of Muscovy, sitting on the margin of this fountain, ennobled its waters by a libation of wine, at the third hour of the afternoon on the 16th April in the year 1717. »

A curious grotto constructed in shells, and containing a statue of Mary Magdalen in a reclining posture, profoundly engaged in reading, has been very recently placed close to the fountain, which adds much to the effect; and, on the whole, the romantic

and charming aspect of these Bas-Fonds, and the pleasant and delightful retreat which they offer to promenaders during the heats of summer, cannot fail to render them peculiarly attractive.

In the place of the quickset-hedge, which formerly enclosed the Park, there has been recently constructed an elegant iron railing, with a foot pavement annexed at the exterior, which adds much to its beauty and general appearance.

THE MARKET PLACE, CALLED THE GRAND'PLACE.

This ancient forum, this theatre of so many splendid festivals, and of so many terrible dramas, is remarkable for the architectural buildings which surround it. On one side extends the Town Hall; opposite to it is the King's house, so called, displaying an elegant frontispiece. It has also been the ordinary theatre of tournaments and executions. Brilliant festivals were given there by Philippe the Good, and Charles the fifth; which were followed, under Philippe the second, by scenes of a different kind. Counts d'Egmont and de Horne were executed there on the 5th June 1568, also in 1719, the venerable Anneessens. The attention of the antiquarian will be, no doubt, excited, by the view of some curious old houses at the bottom of the square, and at their singular and grotesque façades.

LA PLACE DES PALAIS.

The place des Palais derives its name from the King's palace and that of the prince of Orange; the former occupies the southern, the latter, the eastern extremity.

THE PLACE ROYALE.

The Place Royale and the buildings surrounding it were constructed in 1774, after the plan of Guymard; the place was formerly ornamented with a statue of Charles de Lorraine, raised to this good prince by the inhabitants of Brabant, and destroyed in 1794 by the French republicans. Several sovereigns, and amongst others the King of the Low Countries, William the first, and King Leopold have been inaugurated on it; the first in 1815; the second, the

21st July 1831. There has been recently erected thereon, in bronze, an equestrian statue of Godefroid de Bouillon, the celebrated chief of the first crusade, which was solemnly inaugurated on the 15th August, 1848.

THE GREAT AND THE LITTLE SABLON.

At a short distance from the Place Royale is the Little Sablon, an irregular square, but embellished by the gothic church of Notre-Dame-des-Victoires, and the magnificent palace of the duke d'Arenberg; which strangers are permitted to visit to see the house and the beautiful gallery of pictures. During the last century the high aristocracy chose this quarter as their residence. There were the mansions of the princes de Bournonville, and de la Tour-Taxis, of the marquises of Wemmel, des Lalaing, and several other persons of distinction. The front of the spacious mansion of the Count de Merode is situated in the Rue aux Laines, a street running out of the Petit Sablon. gardens behind the house occupy a great extent of ground.





THE GREAT SABLON.

The Great Sablon, separated only from the little square of the same name by the church of Notre-Dame-des-Victoires, and by a group of houses, is of a great extent. On it is seen the fine fountain erected by lord Bruce, Count of Aylesbury, constructed in 1751, in memory of the happy years which he had spent in Brussels. It is surmounted by a statue of Minerva, holding in her hand the bust of Maria Theresa.

PLACE OR SOUARE OF THE MINT.

The Square of the Mint is irregular and of a middling size; surrounded by handsome buildings, the most prominent of which are, the Theatre Royal, the Exchange, the Mint, and the Cafés des Milles Colonnes, de Suisse, the Trois Suisses, etc.

PLACE OR SOUARE DES MARTYRS.

The Place des Martyrs, originally named Place St. Michel, afterwards, under the

French domination, Place de la Blanchisserie, took its present name in 1830. It is erected in commemoration of those who fell in the revolution of 1830, and whose remains are there deposited. In the centre is a beautiful sculptured monument recording the event.

DIFFERENT SOUARES.

There are also in Brussels four other squares, almost all surrounded by fine buildings: they are, the old Corn Market; the New Corn Market; the Square of the Grand Hospice; the Square of the Barricades, whereon a statue of the celebrated anatomist, Vesale, is erected; the Square of the Fountain, called also Place St. Géry.

STREETS.

The finest street in Brussels or in all Belgium, is the rue Royale, which extends from the place or square of the same name, as far as the Place de la Reine, faubourg of Schaerbeek; its length is nearly a quarter of a league. It was begun in 1774 and pro-

longed in 1822 beyond the gate as far as to the Place de la Reine; this portion of it is distinguished from that in the interior, by the name of Rue Royale extérieure. In the passage called the passage of the Library, facing the park, in the Rue Royale, and communicating with Rue Isabelle by a flight of steps, is placed the statue of the French general Belliard, by Geefs. The streets, Rues Neuve, Marché aux Herbes, de la Madeleine, des Fripiers, and de la Régence are remarkable for their beauty, and for the great thoroughfare. The new street recently constructed, called Rue Saint-Jean, requires also to be here mentioned, as it forms a prominent feature in the late splendid improvements in this capital.

About mid-way in this street is an opening affording an extensive panoramic view of the City and adjacent country. It is, at the present moment, in rapid progress towards the recent important projected improvements on this spot, viz; a place or square on the summit, which was solemnly inaugurated in the month of September 1850, and below, a new covered market, which advances rapidly. The place or square has

been named "Ptace du Congrès," and large and elegant houses are being erected on it.

Public Buildings.

THE KING'S PALACE.

The King's Palace is built in a very simple style. The front, erected after the plan of Messieurs Henri and Suys, between the years 1827 and 1829, is ornamented with a projecting arched portico, of the height of the building, and is supported by six corinthian pillars, each being a single block and weighing about thirty six thousand pounds. The site which this portico occupies, with the open square behind, was formerly a street leading from the Heraldic Chamber to the Rue Verte.

The wings of the palace were erected in the time of Joseph II, and served then as residence to the Austrian minister, and the commandant of the troops. Napoléon resided in it with Joséphine in 1803, and the empress Marie-Louise in 1811. It became the royal residence in 1815, and has been embellished and enlarged under the reign of William the first.

THE PALACE OF THE PRINCE OF ORANGE.

Near the royal residence, is the late habitation of the prince of Orange, begun in 1823 after the plan of M. Vanderstraeten, and decorated internally by M. Suys. It resembles a vast Italian pavilion. Two superb staircases, made of stone, lead to the apartments. Those which were inhabited by the princess and looking into the Park, are almost all wainscoted in Russian marble. To the great regret of all lovers of the arts, the fine paintings are taken down, and removed to the Hague. The furniture of this palace was valued at twenty millions of francs. This charming abode, built at the expense of the country for the prince of Orange, now William the second, king of Holland, was ceded by this prince to the Belgian government in 1842.

THE CHAMBERS OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The legislative Chambers, of which the first stone was laid the 24th August 1779, by the prince of Stahremberg, occupies the centre of the rue de la Loi, opposite the king's palace. During the French domination, the tribunals held their meetings there. Large staircases in red marble lead to the assembly rooms of the two branches of the legislature. In the vestibule are placed two large paintings of the modern Flemish School: viz, an episode of the revolution of 1830, by Wappers, and the battle of Wæringen by de Keyser. The Chamber of the Senate is very plain; the room of the senators is decorated with semi-circular columns, between which are placed the public and reserved galleries. On one side of this building is the residence of the Minister of Finance, built in 1779, and of the Minister of Justice; on the other of the Minister of foreign affairs, of the interior and of war.

PALAIS DE JUSTICE.

The Palais de Justice is a vast building,

but not remarkable. It was anciently the Convent of the Jesuits, which was suppressed in 1773 by Marie-Thérèse; it afterwards became a barracks, and at a later period an hospital; it is now occupied by the Tribunals or Courts of Justice. The peristyle, erected in 1823, is a poor imitation of the church of St. Marie-la-Rotonde, formerly the temple of Agrippa, at Rome. The government has placed in it two fine productions of our school painting: the Abdication of Charles the fifth, by Gallait, of Tournay; and the Compromise of the Nobles, by De Biefve, of Brussels.

THE TOWN HALL, OR HOTEL DE VILLE.

Of all the edifices of Brussels, the Town Hall presents the greatest interest in relation to the arts and historical reminiscences. The building, formed of four wings, surrounds a court ornamented with two fountains, executed by Plumier and De Kinder; that of Plumier, placed on the right, is the best of the two. The back part of the Town Hall, destroyed at the time of the bombardment of 1695, was re-

built, from 1706 to 1708, after the plan and under the direction of the architect Corneille Van Nerven. The eastern side was begun in 1401 or 1402; also the tower, which appears to have been finished, from 1449 to 1454, under the direction of Jean Vandenberghe called Van Ruysbroeck. The first stone of the west wing was placed on the 5th May 1444. The ancient part of the Town Hall belonged to the gothic style. The tower, 113 metres in height, presents a model of lightness; on the top of it is the colossal statue of St. Michel, in gilded brass. This statue was executed by Martin Van Rode in 1454.

Churches.

SAINTS MICHEL AND GUDULE.

The principal church of Brussels is situated in a picturesque manner on a steep acclivity, anciently called the Mount St. Mi-

chel. It was formerly a collegiate, founded in the year 1407 by the count of Louvain, Lambert the second, in honour of St. Michel and Ste. Gudule. In the nave is a beautiful sculptured pulpit made of oak, wrought by Henry Verbruggen in 1699 for the Jesuits of Louvain. Marie Thérèse gave it to the church of Ste. Gudule in 1776. It represents Adam and Eve expelled from the terrestrial paradise by an angel, and the tree of life supporting the Virgin and the Infant Jesus. Against the pillars are twelve colossal statues of the Apostles. The most remarkable are those of the Saints Bartholomew, Paul, Thomas, and Mathias, by Jerome Duquesnoy. The Chapel of the Holy Sacrament, on the left of the Choir (wherein a new altar, beautifully sculptured in wood, has been recently placed) was erected in memory of the miraculous hosts, sacriligeously stolen from the church of St.-Catherine and poniarded, by the Jews in 1370.

On the right side of the nave is the new monument erected to the memory of the Canon Triest, executed by order of the gogovernment, by Eugène Simonis. In one of the lateral chapels is to be seen also, the monument erected to the memory of the Count Felix de Merode, who fell in the revolution of 1830; it is of white marble. To avoid the inelegance of representing him in ordinary modern costume, the sculptor has invested the statue with the national blouse, a dress, when represented in sulpture, not less picturesque than the Roman toga.

ST. JACQUES SUR CAUDENBERG.

The church of St. Jacques-sur-Caudenberg, of a modern and simple style, formerly served as a chapel to a congregation of friars of the order of St. Augustin, whose prevost was perpetual chaplain of the palace. Godefroid the first and Henry the second, dukes of Brabant, were the principal benefactors of the convent. This fine edifice was begun in 1776 and finished in 1785, after the design of Guymard. The interior does not contain any objects of art, except the decorations of the high altar which are by Godecharles; under the peristyle are the statues of Moses, by Olivier, and of David

by Janssens, and five basso relievos by Olivier, representing the Martyrdom of St. Jacques and St. Philippe, Jesus-Christ expelling the traders from the Temple, St. Jean Népomucène, St. John the Evangelist, and St. Peter curing a sick person.

NOTRE-DAME-DES-VICTOIRES.

At the extremity of the rue de la Régence, is seen the church consecrated to Notre-Dame-des-Victoires, and its sacristy, begun in 1846, under the plan of M. De Man. The public opinion attributes the foundation ot this temple to the duke John the first, conqueror at Woeringen, but this is a mistake; it was only in 1304, that the ground occupied by the church, was ceded by the hospital St. Jean. In this church was formerly shown a miraculous statue of the Virgin Mary, brought from Antwerp to Brussels in 1348, by a poor woman of the name of Béatrix Soetkens.

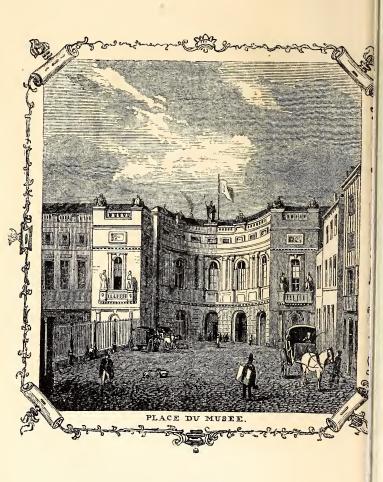
The Sablon is the richest church in Brussels in objects of art and statues. In the sacristy are nine gothic pictures attributed to Van Eyck.

A handsome monumental tablet, surmounted by his bust, has been recently erected in this church (whither his remains have been transferred) to the memory of the celebrated French Poet, Jean-Baptiste Rousseau, by order of the Belgian government. On entering the church, it is immediately seen on casting the eye towards the wall to the right.

SAINTS JEAN AND ETIENNE, OR THE CHURCH OF THE MINIMES.

At a short distance is the Church of St. Jean and St. Etienne (St. John and St. Stephen), commonly called the Church of the Minimes, a temple which was commenced in 1700 and finished in 1715. On the right is the chapel of Notre-Dame-de-Lorette, built after the model of the Church of Loretto in Italy. In the choir is seen the martyrdom of Saint Stephen by Delvaux; the four Evangelists by François, and a Descent from the cross by Gerard. The interior of this Church is built on the model of St. Peter's at Rome.





NOTRE-DAME-DE-LA-GHAPELLE.

Notre-Dame-de-la-Chapelle an ancient provostship of Benedictines, founded in 1134 by Godefroid the first, duke of Lotharingay and cound of Louvain, is a gothic church, the back part of which dates from the twelfth, and the forepart, from the fifteenth century. It suffered a little from the bombardment of 1695, and it was then that a picture of Rubens, the Assumption, which adorned the high altar, was replaced by a In the great chapel adjacent to the choir, dedicated to the Holy Sacrament, and built in 1654, is a tomb of the family Spinola, by Plumier, some landscapes by Achterschelling and Artois, and the monument raised by the counts of Mérode and Beauffort to the dean Anneessens, who was depitated in 1719, for having with too much zeal defended the liberties of the town. An altar piece, sculptured by M. Tambuyser, of Malines, in 1846, surmounts the altar of Ste. Barbe. Near the great portal is found the cenotaph erected in 1823, to the painter Lens, the restorer of painting in Belgium;

this is the last work of the sculptor Godecharles.

NOTRE-DAME DE BON SECOURS.

In old times the chapel of the hospital St. Jacques, is remarkable for the fine dome which crownsit. It was rebuilt, from 1664 to 1694, after the plan of Jean Cortvriend.

RICHES-CLAIRES OR NOTRL-DAME DE SEPT DOULEURS.

The church of the Riches-Claires, which, at first, was a succursal of a convent of brothers Hyéronimites or brothers of common Life, was founded at Brussels in 1422, and abolished in 1589; and afterwards of a convent of Urbaniste nuns, established in 1345, near the place where the Hal gate was built, which was transferred to the centre of the town in 1588, and abolished in 1783, forms since 1801, a succursal of the parish of Ste. Catherine.

SAINTE-CATHERINE.

Ste. Catherine contains a fine Crayer:

Ste. Catherine received into heaven; Christ in the tomb, by Otto Venius; an Assumption of the Virgin Mary, attributed to Rubens. There are also two mausoleums, sculptured by Godecharles, of two painters, both of whom died in Italy in the prime of life: Delvaux, at Bologne in 1817, and Jacobs, at Milan in 1812.

ST. JEAN-BAPTISTE AU BÉGUINAGE.

This church was begun in 1657. A colossal statue of St. Jean-Baptiste, sculptured by M. Puyenbroeck, surmounts the high altar. The burial of Christ, by Otto Venius, and several pictures by Van Loon and Crayer are also to be seen. A priest of the name of Bègue, founded at Liege the first community of this order, which rapidly extended itself in Belgium and Germany. The convent of Beguins, in Brussels, was suppressed during the French domination.

NOTRE-DAME DE FINISTERRE.

At first a small chapel in an isolated quarter; was reconstructed in 1618: became a

parish church in 1646, and was rebuilt in a simple and elegant style in 1700. The dome which surmounts its frontispiece, is of the year 1828. The interior presents nothing remarkable.

ST. NICOLAS.

It was formerly ornamented by a very high tower, which served as a belfry. It was damaged by a storm in 1367; burnt by the bombardment of 1695, and sank down in 1714.

DIFFERENT CHAPELS.

In the chapel Ste. Anne, rue de la Montagne, is seen on the altar a fine group by Duquesnoy: Ste. Anne and the Virgin Mary. The ancient chapel of Ste. Marie-Madeleine in the rue de la Madeleine, is now become the Church of the Redemptorists. The church of the Augustins served as a chapel for the protestant worship, under the reign of William the first. It is now used for public ceremonies, distributions of prizes, and concerts.





PUBLIC HOSPITALS.

St. Pierre, was established under Joseph the second; it now contains 400 beds; persoons in easy circumstances are received here by paying a certain sum. The hospital St. Jean, especially destined for the poor, labouring under consumption, dropsy, etc., or victims of accidents, was founded at the end of the twelfth century. It has been recently rebuilt on a site facing the Botanical Garden.

ASYLIIMS.

There is a very large establishment of this kind at the rue du Grand Hospice: it contains about 600 aged persoons of both sexes. At the front entrance is an inscription in latin: Egenis Senibus, 1828. In the interior are several pictures, and amongst others one by Bernard Van Orley, representing the history of the Virgin Mary, a crucifixion by Crayer, a Virgin with the Infant Jesus by Navez, and two more by Hemling. The Hospice Pachéco, founded in 1713, on the site where the new Hospi-

tal of St. Jean now is, has been newly erected, since the year 1829, on the boulevard de Waterloo. There are two more houses of refuge, the one of the Ursulines, receiving about 230, and the other of Ste. Gertrude, about 200, old people: for the support of these establishments daily collections are made in the different prin-

cipal cabarets.

There is also at Brussels a foundling; and another for Orphans; a lying-in hospital, attached to the new hospital St. Jean; a military hospital in the rue des Minimes; another in the rue aux Laines, founded by a philanthropic society; an Institution for the blind and the deaf and dumb, opened on the 28th February 1835, founded by the late Canon Triest, and under the patronage of Louis de Gonzague; there is also a Mont-de-piété, founded by the Archduke Albert and the Infanta Isabelle in 1618, constructed by the architect Wenceslas Coeberger.

Establishments destined to public instruction.

The Palace of the University, rue des Sols, was embellished in 1771, under the direction of the architect Dewez. This building was formerly the residence of Cardinal Granvelle; afterwards it belonged to the president Rosse, and Jansénius is said to have composed a part of his works in it. The primary school which is attached to it was partly destroyed by fire, the 12th August 1823.

THE MILITARY SCHOOL.

The ancient buildings of the abbey of Caudenberg, suppressed in 1783, were for a long time occupied by the Athenæum of Brussels; they have been used as the military school, since the accession of king Leopold. In this institution officers for the army, navy, cavalry, artillery and enginery receive their professional education.

VETERINARY AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

Founded in 1822. There are 13 professors attached to it, and it is generally frequented by 100 pupils. It is situated out of the gate of Anderlecht.

DIFFERENT ESTABLISHMENTS.

There are in Brussels, the following establishments for public instruction: the Athenaeum; the College St. Michel, rue des Ursulines, conducted by the Jesuits; the central School of commerce and industry, out of the gate of Schaerbeek (but now suppressed); the royal Academy for the fine arts; the Royal school for engraving, founded in 1836; and the Royal Conservatory for music. The primary Government School, situated in the Rue des Sols, is an establishment of the first order.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS.

Brussels contains several Institutions established for the advancement of science and literature. Among these of the first

order are; the royal Academy of science and literature, founded by Marie-Thérèse in 1769 and restablished in 1816; the royal Commission for history; the royal Academy for Medicine, founded in 1840; the Society for natural philosophy and medicine; the Committee of public health, etc.

THE MUSEUM.

It was built in the middle of the fourteenth century, as the mansion of the rich nobleman William de Duvenvoorde. The collections of the prince Charles of Lorraine form the nucleus of the cabinet of natural philosophy and of natural history. The different classes of birds are very numerous, and there is also a fine collection of Russian minerals, presented to the museum by the present Queen of Holland.

The pictures occupy a vast gallery, which contains about 500 objects of art. The Flemish school is represented by the works of almost every master. The collection of ancient pictures is very considerable: an Adoration of the shepherds, by Hugo Vandergoes; a dead Christ, surrounded by holy

persons by Bernard Van Orley, also by the same artist, an Imitation of the Holy Family of Raphaël; several pictures by Roger Vanderweyden, John Van Coninxloo, John Patinir; the Adoration of the Magi by John Schoreel, the Massacre of the Innocents, by Breughel; Christ at the house of Simon the Pharisian, by Gossart de Maubeuge; a pretty picture of Jacques Mostard, known under the name of Tamis brise; several fine portraits, etc. In the ancient chapel of the Museum is a fine collection of statuary bought by the government of the widow of the sculptor Kessels, who died at Rome some years ago. The modern chapel, begun in 1770, is converted into a protestant church. The modern part of the Museum, called the Palace of Industry, was constructed in 1829, on the site of the garden of the palace of Nassau.

The Library was opened in 1837. It contains 200,000 volumes and more than 20,000 manuscripts. The section of the manuscripts is generally known under the name of Bibliothèque de Bourgogne. Philippe the Good began the formation of them. Charles le Téméraire followed the example

of Philippe, and Marguerite of Austria repaired the damages caused to the Library by the bad administration of her father, who was always in debt. An inventory, compiled in 1577, mentions as belonging to this depôt 1,641 volumes, amongst which were 958 manuscripts. Among the treasures there amassed, the missal of the king of Hungary, Mathias Corvin, is much admired, as well as the psalter of Louis de Male. A series of portraits of the sovereigns of the country adorn the rooms of the Bibliothèque de Bourgogne; some of which are very ancient.

THE MUSEUM OF ANTIOUITIES.

The Hal gate, the only ruins which remain of the fortifications raised in the fourteenth century, was converted, in 1847, into a museum of antiquities. There are to be seen, the cradle of Charles the fifth; the horses on which the Archduke Albert and the Infanta Isabelle made their entry into Brussels, when they were received as sovereigns of the country; old baptismal fonts of the church of St. Germain at Tirlemont,

dating from the year 1149, a lion in stone brought from Bavai, and a numerous selection of armours.

THE OBSERVATORY.

Was begun in 1827. It occupies an isolated piece of ground between the enclosure of the town and the boulevard, in the angle formed by the latter between the gates of Schaerbeek and Louvain. It possesses several astronomical instruments of great value and a fine library.

THE BOTANICAL GARDEN.

The garden of the ancient Museum had been transformed, during the French domination, into a botanical garden; it was transferred, in 1826, to out of and near to the gate of Scharbeek, occupying a charming position which looks over the valley of the Senne.

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS.

Several private gentlemen possess artistic and scientific riches of great value. The

Duke d'Arenberg's vast mansion contains a cabinet of pictures, curiosities and sculptures. This residence is remarkable by its historical reminiscences. The celebrated Count d'Egmont and his descendants resided in it; Louis XV has also occupied it. The Prince de Ligne, Count Cornelissen, Count Coghen, Van Bacelaere, Van den Berghen, are also the possessors of elegant pictures. M. Robyns has a curious collection of engravings and insects. We must not pass unnoticed the geographical establishment of M. Vandermaelen, which abounds in scientific riches, such as few private individuals possess.

THEATRES.

There are six theatres in Brussels. The Theatre-Royal, place de la Monnaie, was erected in 1817, under the direction of M. Damesme. It cost a million and a half of francs. On the place which the theatre occupies was formerly a convent of Dominican friars, founded in 1457 by Isabelle of Portugal, wife of Philippe the Good. There are also the Comic-Opera, in the gal-

lery St. Hubert, opened on the 19th June 1847; the Park Theatre, where vaudevilles are performed; the Theatre des Nouveautés, faubourg de Laeken, and near the Railway station, built by a private individual for drama and vaudeville, was opened in June 1844; the theatre of Vaudeville, built in 1845 in the rue de l'Evêque, was opened the first of February 1845; lastly the Circus, between the rue de la Fiancée and the rue de Laeken. The first representation given in it was on the 19th September, 1846.

Commerce and Industry.

The principal branches of the industry of Brussels are the fabrication of lace, typography, lithography and bookbinding, cabinet making, stove making, carriages and saddlery; also are fabricated, blankets, carpets, table cloth, cloth spun by machinery, ribands and gold lace, oil cloth, jewellery, musical and surgical instruments, steam

engines, porcelain, glasses and christals, tobacco, chemical products, candles and soap. There are a great number of breweries and distilleries, sugar refineries and tanneries. The lace trade began to flourish in the sixteenth century. Since 1830, there has been every five or six years in Brussels, an exposition, which displays the state of the national industry.

COMMERCIAL SOCIETIES.

Amongst the societies founded for the promotion of commercial and industrial enterprises, the Société Générale, established 28th August, 1822; the Bank of Belgium, instituted the 12th February, 1835; the Society of Commerce, and the National Society, hold the first rank.

RAIL ROADS.

The national rail roads, were begun in 1834 and completely finished in 1844. Outside of the Leopold gate there is another rail road about to be established, undertaken by a private society.

CANALS.

The canal from Brussels to Willebroeck, which connects the capital with Ruppel, the Scheldt and the sea, was begun in 1550, and opened on the 11th October, 1561. The canal of Charleroy, begun on the 5th April, 1827, was opened for navigation the 25th September, 1832: it cost about 10,500,000 francs.

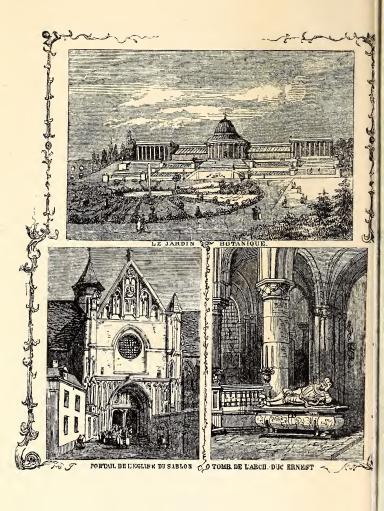
STORE HOUSES OR ENTREPOTS.

A storehouse or entrepôt was constructed in 1780, after the plan of Nivois, near the rue de Laeken. This not being large enough, another has been built on the western side of the great basin, the first stone of which was laid by king Leopold, the 5th May, 1844. The architect is M. Spaack. The Custom-house offices were installed therein on the first of October 1846, and in 1847, in its immense halls were exhibited the productions of the national industry.

POIDS DE LA VILLE OR TOWN WEIGHTS.

Is situated in the rue des Pierres, oppo-





site to the rue au Lait. It was built in 1706, by the architect Van Nerven; a statue of Justice is over the door way.

THE EXCHANGE, OR BOURSE.

Is placed between the Mint and the rue de l'Evêque; built in 1827.

MARKETS.

The principal ones are as follow; opposite the Town Hall; in the Great Sablon; the New Corn Market; the Potato Market; Herb Market; Tripe Market and Chicken Market; these markets being very inconvenient, in as much as they greatly impede the circulation for foot passengers and carriages, the town has constructed a new closed Market on a magnificent scale, situated in the rue de la Madeleine and abutting into the fine new Street, rue St. Jean, and in the rue Duguesnoy, after the plan and under the direction of the celebrated architect Cluysenaer, which was opened on the 1st November 1848. There are also in Brussels a butter, a fish and a fowl market.

Different buildings.

THE MINT.

The Mint, was built in the last century, and partly reconstructed in 1820.

PRISONS.

The Amigo, destined to receive individuals who are imprisoned for short periods, is situated behind the Town Hall, and the other, the principal one, is in the rue des Petits-Carmes. A new cellular prison for women has been recently constructed, situated near the prison des Petits-Carmes. It is a fine structure, and is built after the plan and under the direction of the celebrated architect Dumont, who, in the construction of this edifice, has adopted the style Tudor, which is peculiar to England, and which Mr. Dumont has introduced in a most felicitous manner into this country in the building of this prison.

BARRACKS.

That of Ste. Elisabeth for the infantry and cavalry; another in the rue de Louvain, also for the cavalry; in the rue de Rollebeek, for the infantry; and for the firemen in the Old Market.

CONCERT ROOMS.

The royal Society of the Great Harmony, rue de la Madeleine; and another in the rue Ducale.

THE KING'S HOUSE.

The King's House, so called, opposite the Town Hall, built from 1515-1525, after the plan given by Antoine Keldermans, architect to Charles the fifth. The front is ornamented with a statue of the virgin Mary, placed in 1625 by the Infante Isabella. It was in one of the apartments of this buildings, as history reports, that the Count d'Egmont passed the night previous to his execution on the 5th of June 1568.

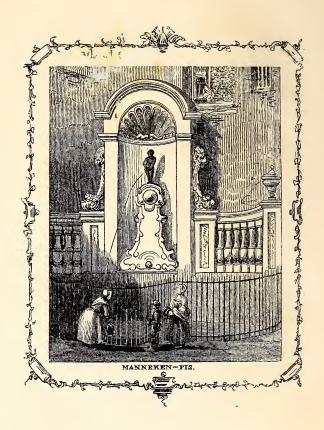
HOTEL DE RAVESTEIN.

In the rue de Terarcken are two remarkable buildings. One is the hotel de Ravestein, built about the end of the fifteenth century; the other, opposite to it, named formerly the Synagogue, was doubtless the place of assembly for the Jews, before their expulsion from Brabant in 1370.

THE GALLERIES OF SAINT-HUBERT.

Were founded by a private society, in 1845, under the superintendence of the architects Cluysenaer and Demot, and extend from the Marché-aux-Herbes to the Montagne-aux-Herbes-Potagères. King Leopold placed the first stone on the 6th July 1846, and assisted at its opening on the first of July, 1847. It is divided into three parts, namely: the Kings Gallery, where is the theatre of the opera comic; the Queen's Gallery, and the Gallery of the Princes. It is a species of arcade, and is truly a magnificent structure; a great ornament to the capital, and cannot fait to excite the





admiration of strangers visiting Brussels. In the gallery called, "Galer de la Reine," on passing through a passage right, you entered formerly a vertical new Market for Flowers, Plant and Shrubs. In consequence, or of the non-success of this market, it is suppressed here, and transferred to the new covered market of the Madelaine; and on its site it is intended to erect a new establishment, to be called, Concert Coffee-rooms.

THE GAS ESTABLISHMENT.

It situated near the Laeken gate on the banks of the Senne.

FOUNTAINS AND DIFFERENT STATUES.

The Manneken-pis, a small statue of an infant in bronze, after the model of Duques-noy and placed in 1619. This little figure has been several times stolen and recovered. In the corner of the rue des Pierres and the Marché-aux-Charbons, is another singular fountain: it is called the Spitter, it was sculptured by Fisco in 1786. The statue

of St. Jean Népomucène, on the bridge of the same name, was executed by De Kinder, by order of the count de Daun, governorgeneral, in 1725.

CELEBRATED PERSONS BORN IN BRUSSELS.

Amongst the celebrated individuals who were born in Brussels, the most renowned are: John the first, duke of Brabant, and poet, died in 1294; his sister Marie, queen of France; the grand-son of John the first; John the third, who also cultivated poetry and took the name of John of Caudenberg; Mary of Bourgogne, the only daughter and heiress of Charles le Temeraire; she was boan in 1456, and died in 1482, from a fall she received when hunting near Bruges; Marguerite of Austra, daughter of Mary and of the emperor Maximilian, patroness of the arts and sciences, was born in 1480, and died in 1530, after having governed the Low Countries in quality of Governess-general; Charles, Elector of Bavaria, son of the celebrated Maximilian-Emmanuel, and the unfortunate rival of Marie-Thérèse, was born in 1697, and died in 1745; André de Wesele,

called Vésale, was born in 1514, and died in 1564; he was a celebrated anatomist; John-Baptist Van Helmont, physician and physiologist, died in 1644; Roger Vanderweyden, who was the best pupil of John Van Eyck, died in 1463; Bernard Van Orley, who studied under Raphaël, died in 1541; Philippe and Jean-Baptiste de Champagne, and Antoine-François Vandermeulen, were painters of battles; François Duquesnoy, a celebrated sculptor, died in 1642; Jérôme Duquesnoy, brother to François, died in 1654; Egide-Lambert Godecharles, died in 1835; Desadeleer and Cardon, were engravers; Christyn, a lawyer, genealogist and diplomatist, died in 1690 and several others.

The faubourgs or suburbs.

GENERALITIES.

The increased extent which the capital of the kingdom has acquired during the last 25 years, has operated in the same propor-

tion on its immediate environs; the surplus of its population being spread over the adjacent communes, which are separated from it only by a low wall and a narrow dry ditch. The villages which constituted formerly its precincts, and which combined, contained scarcely from 7 to 8,000 inhabitants, have increased in population to an astonishing extent, and may reckon, at the present moment, 68,000 inhabitants, in the following proportions:

Schaerbeek					6,200
Saint-Josse-t	en-	-No	ode		14,850
Etterbeek .					3,000
Ixelles					14,250
Saint-Gilles					4,200
Forêt					1,300
Anderlecht					6,000
Molenbeek.					12,100
Koekelberg					2,200
Laeken					4,000

FAUBOURG OF SCHAERBEÉK.

About twenty years ago, consisted of only two or three houses, surrounded by kitchen

gardens, cherry orchards and rich meadows. It has now the appearance of a small town, and contains 6,200 habitants. The centre of the village of Schaerbeek offers nothing remarkable, except the parish church, built in the gothic style. The altar piece is ornamented with a St. Servais, by Crayer. In the faubourg de Schaerbeek a beautiful new Church is now building and nearly completed, dedicated to Saint Mary.

THE FAUBOURG OF LOUVAIN, OR SAINT-JOSSE-TEN-NOODE.

The commune of Saint-Josse-ten-Noode includes the three fine suburbs of Schaerbeek, Louvain and Leopold. About the year 1360, a small church was built, dedicated to St. Josse. A little beyond this church is an old building: it was for a long time the property of the dukes of Brabant and Bourgogne; it then passed to different families and amongst others to that of Ursel. Near the causeway leading to Etterbeek, is the hydraulic machine, constructed in the year 1602, by Sébastien Muller, of Augsbourg, to supply the fountains in the Park.

THE OUARTIER LÉOPOLD.

The Quartier Leopold, begun in 1838 at the expense of a society for the enlarging and embellishing of Brussels, outside the boulevard, extending from the Louvain gate to that of Namur, contains many splendid mansions; there is a magnificent new church in this quarter, dedicated to St. Joseph: M. Suys is the architect.

IXELLES.

Formerly a dependence of the parish of Ste. Gudule. About the year 1300, an asylum was founded in this faubourg, which was then a hamlet, where 25 aged persons are to this day lodged. At the end of the causeway, which is ornamented with the splendid villas of Messieurs Vanderstraeten and Lybart, and at the foot of the hill, stands the ancient village of Ixelles.

A splendid new church in the rich gothic style, dedicated to St. Boniface, has been constructed in the rue de la Paix in this faubourg. This beautiful edifice is due to the talent of the architect Dumont.

THE OUARTIER LOUISE.

Is situated outside of the boulevard de Waterloo, and offers nothing remarkable.

SAINT-GILLES.

Was formerly a very important faubourg: the soil is fertile, where a considerable quantity of excellent vegetables are now cultivated. Its church, which was destroyed during the troubles of the sixteenth century, dates from the year 1756; it was restored and enlarged in 1823. On the neighbouring height, the governor general Count de Monterey had constructed, in 1672, a fort, which was taken down in 1782.

FORÊT.

Is but a very short distance from Saint-Gilles. Large manufactories, near the Senne, occupy the buildings of the ancient abbey of Forêt, suppressed in 1796, after having existed during seven centuries. In the church is the tomb of sainte Alène,

whom, her father Lewold, lord of Dilbeek, irritated because she had embraced the christian religion, caused to be assassinated about the year 650.

ANDERLECHT.

The village of Anderlecht is one of the most flourishing localities of the province of Brabant. Its church is a fine edifice in the splendid gothic style. Begun in 1470, by the architect Jean Vandenberghe, it was not finished until 1526. The interior is embellished with a great number of pictures and tombs. Amongst the latter, the most splendid are those of Jean de Walcourt and Arnoul de Hornes, decorating the choir; that of Albert de Dithmar, physician to the dukes of Brabant. Amongst the pictures, is a St. Guidon at prayers, by Crayer; a beheading of Saint John the Baptist, by Guerchin; a Madeleine and an Adoration of the Magi, by De Clerck. On the height between Anderlecht and Molenbeek, the French army, commanded by the Marshal de Villeroy, took up its position, and bombarded the town during the 13th, 14th and

15th August 1695. Anderlecht is also famous for the excellent butter which it produces.

We cannot close this article without noticing the Boarding school for young gentlemen, kept by Mr. H. Bocquet, and situated in this charming village. The premises are most extensive and appropriate, with large gardens, etc., which, combined with the ample diet, the general care bestowed on the pupils by both Mr. and Madame Bocquet, and the moderate terms, 500 francs (201.) per annum, are strong claims to recommend it to the notice of the public.

MOLENBEÉK.

Molenbeek, situated out of the gate of Flanders, is of all the suburbs that where the greatest industrial activity prevails. Few localities of the country present so many important factories, namely: a workshop for the construction of machines, a steam mill for grinding flour, tanneries, founderies, weaving establishments, soap and candle manufactories; also manufactories of coaches and delf ware, breweries

and distilleries. Along the quay of the canal of Charleroy extends an immense line of coal warehouses.

LAEKEN.

Laeken is a charming little village about a mile from Brussels. It has a church of very ancient date, erected by the sisters of a prince of the name of Hugues, who died in fighting against the Normans. An inscription and pictures placed in the church represent this event. The choir, erected about the year 1200, is very fine. The archdukes Albert and Isabelle, caused this temple to be restored in 1601, and ornamented it with a beautiful window placed in the principal front, but which is now hidden by the organ. The church yard, which is a sort of Père la Chaise, is full of tombs. The most remarkable is that of Madame Malibran, excuted by Geefs. A little further is the cenotaph of general Belliard. The president Count de Nény, the painter Lens, the commandant of Nieuport, the burgomaster of Brussels, Rouppe, are also buried at Lacken. A fine alley, planted in

1625, by order of the Infante Isabelle, leads to a chapel dedicated to Ste. Anne.

On a height called Schoonenberg is the royal palace of Laeken, an immense building constructed with taste, and surmounted by a dome. It was built between 1782 and 1784, under the direction of the architect Montoyer. A magnificent terrace extends towards the south east; bordered on each side by tufted groves, traversed in the middle by a large pond; it descends towards the Senne and the canal of Willebrock, beyond which is seen the city of Brussels, its towers and public walks. Vast hot houses, a magnificent orangery, the temple of the Sun, that of Minerva, decorate the different parts of this fine garden. It was whilst residing at Lacken that Napoleon determined to invade Russia, a fatal decision, which was the downfall of his colossal power. Leopold has considerably embellished this royal residence.

THE ENVIRONS OF BRUSSELS.

On the banks of the Senne, two leagues to the north of Brussels, is the little town

of Vilvorde, (4,800 habitants) where is the first station of the nothern line of the Belgian railways. Its principal church is dedicated to the Virgin. The house of correction, built near the river, in 1776, by the architect Dewez. occupies the site of a citadel, which the duke Wenceslas caused to be constructed in 1375, to command the cities of Brussels and Louvain. The castle of Vilvorde, after having during a long period served as a depôt for the archives of the Duchy and as a State prison, lost all its importance towards the end of the last century. Vilvorde was pillaged by the inhabitants of Brussels, in 1489; taken by the Spaniards, in 1584; and by the French, in 1746. In the neighbourhood of Vilvorde is an old farm called De Dry-Toren, formerly inhabited by Teniers; and near the commune of Elewyt, the country house of Steen, where Rubens made frequent visits.

To the north west of Brussels is the village of *Dieghem*; farther on is *Saventhem*, in the church of which is a fine painting by Van Dyck: St. Martin tearing his cloak to elothe a poor man, a production of inimi-

table colouring. At Steenockerzeel is a charming castle surrounded by water: it belonged to the celebrated Charles de Lannoy, who received at Pavia the sword of the king of France, Francis the first.

Further on, towards the north west, is Boort-Meerbeke; the church contains a Temptation of St. Antoine, by Teniers; at Haeght, there is a station of the rail road, on the section between Malines and Louvain; and Wespelaer, whose magnificent garden was planned by the architect Henri, for M. Plasschaert of Louvain.

Cortenberg. Here are the remains of an ancient monastery founded, about the year 1090, by Ste. Colombe. It was at Cortenberg that prince Henry abdicated the throne in favour of John the first surnamed the Victorious; at Everberg, a neighbouring village of Cortenberg, the family of Merode possesses a fine modern country-seat to which is attached an immense park.

Further on to the south, from the Senne to the Dyle, extends the forest of Soignies. This forest was, during the last century, well kept up. Unfortunately, the Emperor Napoleon ordered a great part of the wood

be cut down; and a few years afterwards William the first, gave it over to the Société Générale. Several roads intersect this forest; amongst others those from Brussels to Wavre; from Brussels to Ysque; from Brussels to Namur by Genappe, and from Wavre to Tervueren by Groenendael.

Auderghem, on the road to Wayre and Tervueren, possessed a convent of Dominicans, founded by the duchess Aleyde, the mother of John the first; which is now converted into a country seat, situated midway near a large pond. Rouge-Cloître was formerly a convent. A little beyond Rouge-Cloître, to the right of the road to Wayre, is the hamlet of Trois-Fontaines, there still exist some remains of a tower which was a favourite haunt of John the third, and in which, at a later period, poachers and marauders were confined.

At Boitsfort was formerly the ducal hunting establishment, of which the first mention was made in the time of John the first. In an expedition against the archbishop of Cologne, this prince brought his pack of hounds from Boitsfort, and hunted in the domains of his enemy, as if to attest

his success. Charles the fifth was also fond of hunting in this neighbourhood. The hounds and game have now entirely

disappeared.

On the eastern extremity of the forest, are situated Tervueren, Duysbourg, Notre-Dame-au-Bois and Yssche. Tervueren was the favourite residence of our sovereigns. The king of Holland, William the second, to whom the palace at Tervueren belonged, has sold it to the Belgian government. The parish church contains the tombs of the Dukes Antoine, John the fourth and Philippe de St. Pol; also that of the three sons of the duke John the third, all of whom died before their father. There is every year at Tervueren a horse fair, which is much frequented.

On an eminence beyond Tervueren is *Duysbourg*, the first residence of the Salian Francs; the *Dispargum*, from whence Clodion set out in 440 to conquer the town of Tournay, where his successors remained nearly seventy years. Juste-Lipse, a celebrated writer, who died in 1606, was born in the pretty borough of Yssche.

Following the road from Brussels to la

Hulpe, we arrive at Groenendael or Val vert. Still further on is La Hulpe, a pretty village, where there is a paper mill; the neighbourhood is very picturesque, containing many handsome country houses and a pond, which is reckoned the largest in

the province of Brabant.

The village of Waterloo, which the 18th June 1815, has rendered so celebrated, extends along the road from Brussels to Namur to more than a league's distance. Two centuries ago, there were only a few farms in this village, dependent on the parish of Braine-l'Alleud. In 1690 a church was built, of which the first stone was laid by the Marquis of Castanaga, governor of the Low Countries. Towards the south extends that immense plain, where the ever memorable battle was fought.

The southern rail road leads from Brussels to Hal, Lemberq and Tubise. The principal industry of Hal consists in the manufacture of turnery ware; the Town Hall was built in 1616, and is a fine building. At Lemberq there is an immense distillery belonging to M. Claes, and the country seat of the duke d'Ursel. Near Tubise are the quar-

ries of Quenast, whence a great quantity

of stones are extracted for paving.

The Alsemberg Causeway, which leaves Brussels at the Hal Gate, conducts to the village of Uccles, rich in picturesque sites, and crossed by numerous streams, which put in motion a great number of factories; to Alsemberg where a miraculous statue of the Virgin is venerated in a handsome gothic church, which dates from the 14th centuries; to Beersel, whose ancient castle is abandoned to the ravages of time. One of its lords, Henri de Witthem, having, in 1488, espoused the cause of the king Maximilian against the Flemings and the revolted Brabancons, the Bruxellois, at two différent times, besieged Beersel: the first time they were obliged to raise the siege, but the second was followed by the taking and ruin of the manor house. Its massy towers and its thick walls were rebuilt some years after-The Arenberg family, to whom it belongs, have, for a long time, ceased to inhabit it.

At the south west of Brussels is the baronial castle of *Gaesbeke*, so rich in historical reminiscences, situated on the summit

of a hill, and surrounded by an immense park. It now belongs to the Marquis d'Arconati.

Dilbeek, on the road from Brussels to Ninove, contains an old manor house, built in the seventh century of the christian era, in the time of Lewold, who caused his daughter Ste. Alène to be assassinated, because she had embraced the christian religion. More to the north, Assche and Merchtem are remarkable for their numerous population. Assche was in the time of the Romans an important locality. It was crossed by a road proceeding from Bavi, by Enghien, and leading towards Batavia.

At a short distance from Laeken, near the village of Meysse, stands the fine manor house of Bouchout near a pond and sur-

rounded by gardens.

Grimberghe for a long time belonged to the counts of Nassau, princes of Orange; its chateau is now the property of the family of Merode. It contains a numerous collection of portraits. The church is ornamented with a fine tower, and was begun in the year 1700. The pews and the sacristy are well worth seeing.

At Strombeke is the castle of Bloementhal, where William the Taciturn resided; in the church is buried Henry Vandernoot, the principal promoter of the Brabançon revolution; he died in 1826.

A great number of picturesque villages situated on the western bank of the canal from Brussels to Willebroeck, transform it into a charming walk, which extends several leagues. Near the aqueduct of the Three Towers, is the castle of Ransbeek, at Neder-Heembeek, and further on, the hamlet of Trois-Fontaines; afterwards is seen the village of Borght, where an inundation caused, in the month June of 1839, the death of eighty persons; Ter-Tommen. whose lords were the hereditary governors of Grimberghe, and the beautiful residence of Schiplacken. Lastly, after having passed Humbeke, we arrive at Capelle-au-Bois, where there is a rail road station on the line from Malines to Ghent.

APPENDIX.

BRITISH MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

Dr. Perkins, Established 1820, 71, rue Ducale.

Dr. Allaway, F. L. S. Licentiate of the royal College of Physicians of London, etc., rue Botanique, 17.

Dr. Blackwood, 19, Boulevard du Regent.

Dr. Coley, Physician, 4, Boulevard du Régent.

Dr. Parkinson, 15, rue Pépinière.

BRITISH CHARITABLE FUND.

Established in 1815 for the purpose of forwarding to England distressed British subjects, and affording relief to the aged and destitute. The fund is under the patronage of the King of the Belgians, who is an annual donor to the amount of 2,000 fr. The British ambassador is at the head of this charity, and the Rev. M. J. Blacker is one of the Directors.

THE BELGIAN CURRENCY.

After travelling in Holland and Prussia, when the stranger enters Belgium, he finds himself in a land of intelligible coins. Some of the Dutch money is still in currency, but the greater part of the coins in circulation are of a new mintage, the head of Leopold being on one side, and the value of the piece marked on the other.

The money reckoning is precisely the same as that of France, i. e. by francs and centimes. The new coins are a gold piece of 25 fr. value, a smaller gold coin of 10 fr. value; silver coins of 5 fr.; 2 1|2; 2; 1; 1|2 and 1/4. Copper coins: 10, 5, 2 and 1 centime.

THE DECIMAL SYSTEM.

The Belgians have likewise adopted the French system of weights and measures, established on a principle much more simple and unerring than that in use in England—the former is of universal application, the latter can never be any thing but local. The French unity of length and weight is based on an invariable dimension of the terrestrial globe, which is admitted in all countries. It is independent of all extrinsic notions, such as gravity and the arbitrary subdivisions of duration, an advantage which the length of a second's pendulum certainly does not present. The admeasurement, then, of a fourth of the earth's meridian—an ideal circle going round the globe from pole at right angles with the equator-constitutes the basis of the French system. The length of this fourth of the meridian is divided into 10,000,000 parts; a single ten-millionth part is the mètre, or the unity of long measure. (A metre is equal to 59 English inches.)

A square, measuring on each side 10 metres forms the are, or the unity of the mensuration of surface. (160 ares are equal to one British acre.)

A cube, measuring on each of its sides one metre, constitutes the stère: used for dry measure.

A cube, measuring on each of its sides the tenth part of a metre, is the unity of volume. A vessel, gauging such a cube, is the unity of liquid measure, and is called the *litre*. (A litre is equal to about a pint and three quarters, or nearly a quart, English measure.)

The weight of a cube of water, measuring on each of its sides the 100th part of a metre, is the unity of weight, and is called the gramme. A thousand graumes of pure water at its greatest density (about 40 degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer), are of course equivalent to the litre. (A thousand grammes [a killo-

gramme] weigh about 2 1/2 lbs. British.)

These unities being often too great or too small for common use, they constitute the basis of new unities on the simple decimal principle. The names of these new unities are formed from Greek and Latin words. If to express multiplication of the original unity, Greek is used; if to express division of the original unity, Latin, or words slightly modified from the Latin, is used. The Greek words are deca, for ten, hecto a hundaed, kilo a thousand, and muria ten thousand. The Latin words are deci, for ten, cente a hundred, and milli a thousand. These various words are placed before, or prefixed to, the principal unity. Thus, the decamètre is equal to ten metres, and the decimètre is the tenth part of a metre; the hectolitre is equal to 100 litres, and the centelitre is the hundreth part of a litre; the killogramme is equal to a thousand grammes, and the milligramme is the thousandth part of a gramme.

The connection between these weights and measures will now be clearly seen. The ave is the square decametre; the litre is the cubic decimetre; and the killogramme is the weight of a litre of pure water at its

maximum density.

The currency of the country being assimilated by decimal reckoning to the weights and measures, it may be safely averred that the whole world cannot produce a more simple and immutable plan of calculation than that now in use in France or Belgium.

PASSPORT.

The office for Strangers arriving at Brussels to exhibit their passport, is at the Hôtel de Ville (Town Hall).

The office is open every day from 10 to 4, and on Sundays and Festivals from 10 to 12.

FOREIGN LEGATIONS.

Austria, 9, rue Belliard, Quartier-Léopold; Brazils, 56, Chaussée de Schaerbeek; Denmark, 5 bis, rue Verte; France, 29, rue Royale-Neuve; Great Britain, 7, rue Belliard, Quartier Léopold; Holland, rue du Commerce, Quartier-Leopold, corner of the rue Belliard; Portugal, 18, rue du Cerf; Prussia, 59, rue des Petits Carmes; Spain, 42, rue de Namur; Sweden and Norway, 5 bis, rue Verte.

PRINCIPAL BANKERS.

Adam, 29, Montagne-aux-Herbes-Potagères.
Benoit, 8, Quai-aux-Pierre de Tailles.
Benoit-Spitaels, 14, rue du Chêne.
Bisshofsheim, 22, rue des Cendres.
Brugman and Son, 9, rue d'Arenberg.
Cassel and Co, 5, rue Léopold.
Defosse and Woeste, 48, Montagne-aux-Herbes-Potagères.
Demot-Legrand and Co, rue des Hirondelles.

Demot-Legrand and Co, rue des Hirondelles. Leemans, 84, Fossé-aux-Loups. Matthieu and Son, 1, Place de la Chancellerie.
Oppenheim, (Joseph), 36, rue Fossé-aux-Loups.
Oppenheim, 126, Longue-rue-Neuve.
Reghem-Couteaux, 6, rue du Boulet.
Richtenberger, Representative of the Firm of Rotschild and Co, 33, rue de l'Eveque.
Rittweger, Jun. 23, rue du Commerce.
Salter. (English), 36, rue de la Peninière.

Rittweger, Jun. 25, rue du Commerce. Salter, (English), 36, rue de la Pepinière. Thibergien and Co, 11, rue des Longs-Chariots. Trumper and Martins, 4, rue du Parchemin. Van Humbeeck, 12-14, Rempart des Moines. Waest, 17, Boulevard du Regent. Weston, 6, rue Ducale.

ENGLISH BANK.

P. A. Reynolds and Co, 77, Montagne de la Cour.

MONEY CHANGERS.

Baretta and Belpaire, 16, rue des Fripiers.
Laplace, 71, Montagne de la Cour.
De Porres, 48, corner of the rue des Fripiers and the rue de l'Eveque.
Messel, 56, rue de la Madeleine.
Messel (S.), 45, rue des Fripiers.

Messel (S.), 43, rue des Fripiers.
Piet Barbier, 43, Marché-aux-Herbes.
Van Wambeke, 68, rue de la Madelaine.
Vogel, 40, rue de l'Eveque.
Yates, 80, Montagne de la Cour.

PUBLIC BATHS.

The establishments of this kind are situated as follow:

- 1. Montagne-aux-Herbes-Potagères, 51.
- 2. Place St. Géry, in the lower town, 2.

- 3. Bains Léopold, rue des Trois Têtes, Montagne de la Cour.
- 4. Bains de la Porte de Namur.

RESTAURATEURS. (Houses which furnish and send out Dinners.)

Bourré, 22, rue de la Madelaine.

Dubost, 69, rue Fossés-aux-Loups.

Dubost Jun. 22, rue de la Putterie.

Trois Frères Provençaux, 17, Longue rue de l'Ecuver.

Vue du Grand Théâtre, rue Leopold.

Double Pot, 62, Montagne de la Cour (for plain dinners at moderate charges).

COFFEE HOUSES.

Place de la Monnaie.

Café des Milles Colonnes,

- Suisse.
- de la Monnaie. des Trois Suisse, rue des Princes.
- Royal, Place des Palais.

Café des Arts.

- rue de la Fourche. de la Renaissance,
- de l'Univers.
- du Vaux-Hall, in the Park.
- Foy
- de la Renaissance, Galeries St.-Hubert.
- des Arts,
- des Boulevards, Place des Nations.

HOTELS.

Belle-Vue (de) Place Royale. Belier (du), Marché aux Poulets.

Bordeaux (de), 9, rue du Midi.

Brabant (de), 50, Marché au Charbon.

Campine (de la), 17, Marché aux Poulets. Canal de Louvain, 11, Vieux-Marché-aux-Peaux. Chasseur Chasteler (du), 27, Petite rue des Bouchers. Commerce (du), 2, rue de l'Escalier. Cour de Cologne, 15, rue de la Fourche. Cour de Vienne, 24, rue de la Fourche. Couronne d'Espagne, 12, Vieille-Halle au-Blé. Dunkerque (ville de), 4, Marché-aux-Poulets. Europe (de l'), 1 and 2. Place Royale. Empereur (de l'), 14, rue de l'Escalier. Flandre (de), Place-Royale. France (de), 6, Montagne du Parc. Grand-Café (du), 24, rue des Eperonniers. Grande-Bretagne, 94, Montagne de la Cour. Grand-Miroir (du), 28, rue de la Montagne. Groenendael (de), rue de la Putterie. Hollande (d'), 61, rue de la Putterie. Impérial et des Etrangers Réunis, 44, rue des Fri-

piers.
Londres (de), Boulevard du Régent.
Luxembourg (de), 15, rue de l'Escalier.
Midi (du), near the Station du Midi.
Monnaie (de la), 4, rue Fossé aux-Loups.
Morian (du), 15, rue d'Or.

Nord (du), 22, rue de la Montagne.
Paix (de la), 7, Impasse de la Violette.

Poste (de la), rue Fossé-aux-Loups.

Princes (des), rue Fossé-aux-Loups, corner of the Longue rue Neuve.

Regence (de la), 2, rue de la Régence.
Rhin (du), Longue rue Neuve.
Royal, 17, rue des Fripiers.
Saxe (de) Longue rue Neuve.

Suède (de), 35, rue de l'Evêque. Tirlemont (de), 3, Petite rue de l'Écuyer. Univers (de l') Longue rue Neuve.

THÉATRES.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLACE DE LA MONNAIE.

Is open during the theatrical year, every day of the week (except Saturday). The performances consist of Grand Opera, Comedy, Drama, etc.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Balcons, Stalles et premières loges		4	00
Galeries et avant scène du rez-de-chaussée.		5	00
Secondes, rez-de-chaussée, and Parquets		2	50
Troisièmes	٠	1	50
Quatrièmes		1	25
Parterre			00
Paradis))	50
THEATRE DU PARC.			

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Premières et	Pa	ırqı	uet					۰	5	50
Secondes .									2	50
Troisièmes a	nd	Pa	rte	\mathbf{rre}					1	00
Paradis	•	•	•	•	٠		•		>>	50

THEATRE DES GALERIES St.-HUBERT.

The Performances are the Comic Opera, Comedy and Vaudeville.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Premières stalles d'Orchestre et secondes d'avantscènes.

pre	mië	ères										3	50
												2	00
s.												1	50
itre	de	s t	rois	ièn	ies.							1	30
												2	00
												1	00
												»	60
	s. àtre	s àtre de	s àtre des ti	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	premières. 3

Chlidren under 8 years of age pay only half price.

THEATRE DES NOUVEAUTÉS.

Outside of the Porte de Cologne and near the Railway, Station du Nord.

The performances are Dramas and Vaudevilles.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Premières e	le f	face.				٠			4	00
Premières										
Stalles, Log	;es	d'av	ant	-sc	ène				3	00
Secondes d										
Secondes de										
Troisièmes										
Baignoires.										
Parterre.										
Paradis	•	•	•					٠))	60

THÉATRE NATIONALE DU CIRQUE.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Premières,	avan	t - sc	ène	es	de	pr	em	ière	es,	an	d	Bai-
gnoires.											2	50
Stalles et Ba												
Parquet											2	00

Pourtour, Galerie de première, and avant-		
scène du second	1	70
Parterre, Galerie de seconde, Loge de troi-		
sième, and avant scène de troisième))	75
Galerie de troisième, and Amphithéâtre))	40
CARÉ TARRETTAR ARTE DE TIÉMACO		
CAFÉ VAUDEVILLE (RUE DE L'ÉVÊQUI	E).	
PRICES OF ADMISSION.		
Premières et Secondes Loges, Stalles des pre-		
mières, Baignoires and loges d'avant-scène.	2	50
Parquet and premières Galeries	2	00
Secondes Galeries	1	5 5
Troisièmes Galeries))	7 5
Parterre	1	00
Paradis	5	50

RELAYS OF POST HORSES.

Are to be obtained of Mr. Lefevre rue des Croisades, Station du Nord.

Carriages and Horses to be had on hire from the following:

Breyne, 17, rue des Moineaux.
Bergenhuys, 4 bis, rue de Ligne.
Busterback, 18, rue de l'Abricot.
Caupin, 80, rempart des Moines.
Claessens Fierens, 15, Place St.-Géry.
Dutois, 24, rue de l'Hôpital.
Elearts, 15, rue du Nord.
Haenen, 11, Place St.-Géry.
Mathy, rue Notre-Dame-aux-Neiges.

Montoisy, 56, rue du Nord.									
Nahon, 2, Impasse des Pierres.									
Potems, 6, rue StPierre.									
Renotte, 64, rue Haute.									
Timmerman, 17, rue Caudenberg.									
Urlaub, 2, petite rue du Nord.									
Vandenberghe, 7, courte rue des Longs-Chariots.									
Vandoren, 20, rue Terre-Neuve.									
Velter, at the Hôtel of the Cour de France, 23, r	ne								
des Pierres.									
The Diligence for Waterloo leaves every day from	m								
the Hôtel de la Couronne d'Espagne, vieille Marché									
au Blé.									
TARIFF.									
For the hire of Coaches on the various Stands in									
Brussets.									
FROM 7 IN THE MORNING UNTIL 9 IN THE									
· EVENING.									
For a single drive within the city 1	50								
For one hour	00								
	50								
21 of flour sofond the most to the first									
FROM 9 IN THE EVENING UNTIL MIDNIGHT.									
Cincle dains as ithin the sites	00								
orner of the state									
	25 00								
Every nour beyond the arst 2	<i>)</i> 0								
FROM MIDNIGHT TO 7 IN THE MORNING.									
Single drive within the city	00								
One hour	00								
	0								
	-								

FROM 8 IN THE MORNING TO 9 IN THE EVENING.

For a drive in the Allée-Verte, per hour	5	00
» v to the Botanical Garden	1	7
» be either of the above places, re-	_	
» maining there half an hour and retur-		
ning	2	50
» a drive to the Bridge of Lacken	2	50
For the same, remaining there half an hour		
and returning	3	25
» a drive to the church of Laeken	2	75
» the same, remaing there half an hour		
and returning	5	50
» a drive to the Palace of Laeken	3	50
» the same, remaining there half au he	our	and
returning		25
If the Coachman take the new Road he must	hin	isel
pay the Toll at the Barrier.		
7 11		
For a ride to the great Cemetery of StGu-		
	2	75
dule ,	2	
dule ,	2	75 50
dule, the same, remaining half an hour and returning For a ride through the Louvain gate, return-	-	
dule,	5	50
dule ,	-	
dule ,	5	50 75
dule ,	5	50
dule ,	5 2 5	50 75 50
dule ,	5	50 75
dule ,	5 2 5 5	50 50 50
dule ,	5 2 5	50 75 50

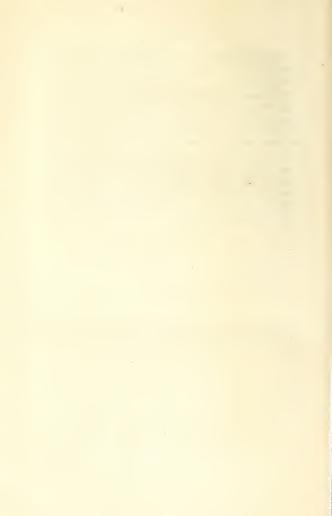
))	the same, remaining half an hour and		
	returning	3	25
For a	ride to the Cemetery of StCatherine.	2	50
))			
	returning	3	25
For a	ride to the Barrier at Ixelles or Cure-		
	ghem	2	75
>>	the same, remaing at either half an		
	hour and returning	3	50
For a	ride to the Barrier of StGiles, Dil-		
	beck, or Koeckelbergh	2	50
>>	the same, remaining at either half an		
_	hour and returning	3	25
For a	drive to the Barrier of Molenbeck or		
	Schaerbeck	2	25
1)	the same, remaining at either half an		
_	hour and returning		00
	ns wishing to retain a Coach beyond th		
	r at any of the places herein specified		
	extra at the rate charged per hour wit	hin	the
tow	n.		

N. B. The above Tariff is estimated after the rate of 2 Horses to a Coach, but by taking a Coach with but one Horse, there is a reduction of about one third to nearly one half from these Prices.

Whenever the Coach is taken by the hour, it must be observed that after the hour is commenced until the half hour, only half an hour can be demanded, but past the half hour the hour must be paid in full.

With respect to fares further from the interior of the city or the places already named, as well as to the hours not comprised in the foregoing regulations for various distances, it is advisable for the party hiring a Coach to agree with the owner or driver beforehand.

An Omnibus sets out from Laeken to Brussels at 8 and returns at 10 o'clock every morning. This correspondence is continued at stated hours during the whole day. The office where the exact hours and fares may be known, is at no 7, vieille rue au Beurre, opposite St.-Nicolas'Church, from whence the vehicle starts. There is also an Omnibus for the village of Anderlecht, which starts from the Cour de France, rue des Pierres every morning at 1/2 past 11, and at 4 in the afternoon, and returns thence at 2 and at 6 o'clock in the evening.



CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTION AND									1
General Observation	ns								v
Miscellaneous Info	rmation.								VI
British Medical Pra									
British Charitable I									
Difficial Charicable 1	did	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	100
SUCCINCT HISTORY	OF THE C	TY	0F]	BRU	SSE	LS	•	•	1
SITUATION CLIM	ATE]	Popt	JLA'	rio	N.				45
Description of Br	USSELS A	ND	ITS	Er	(VI)	RON	s		
Public Walks-Se	OUARES	- S	rre	ETS	. —	- Bo	UL	E-	
vards. — Allée-									
Place Place									
- Great and Litt									
of the Mint. —									
— Different Squa									67
									41
Public Buildings.									
lace of the Princ									
Representatives									
Hall or Hôtel-de-	Ville								57
CHURCHES Saints	s Michel	and	Gu	dul	e	- 5	Sair	ıt	
Jacques sur Cau	denberg.		No	tre	Da	ıme	de	es	
Victoires Sain									
				4.0.		0.	· ·		

Church of the Minimes Notre Dame de la	
Chapelle. — Notre Dame de Bon Secours. —	
Riches Claires or Notre Dame des Sept Douleurs.	
- Sainte Catherine Saint Jean Baptiste au	
Beguinage Notre Dame de Finisterræ	
Saint-Nicolas (New Churches in the Fau-	
bourgs); StBoniface, StJoseph, Ste-Marie.	
- Different Chapels	61
CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS Hospitals Asy-	
lums	69
ESTABLISHMENTS DESTINED TO PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.	
- Palace of the University Military School.	
- Veterinary and Agricultural School	71
DIFFERENT ESTABLISHMENTS LITERARY AND	
Scientific Institutions, etc. — The Museum.	
- The Museum of Antiquities Observa-	
tory The Botanical Garden Private	
Collections. — Theatres	72
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. — Commercial Societies.	
- Rail-roads Canals Store-Houses or	
Entrepôts. — Poids de la Ville or Town	
Weights. — The Exchange or Bourse. — Mar-	
kets	78
DIFFERENT BUILDINGS The Mint Prisons.	
— Barracks. — Concert Rooms. — The	
King's House Hotel de Ravestein Galle-	
ries of Saint Hubert. — Gas Establishment. —	
Fountains and different Statues. — Celebrated	
	82
THE FAUBOURGS OR SUBURBS. — Generalities. —	
Faubourg of Schaerbeek. — Faubourg of Lou-	
vain or Saint Josse-ten-Noode. — Quartier	
Leonold - Ixelles - Quartier Louise -	

Saint Gilles. — Forêt. — Anderlecht; Boar-	
ding School Molenbeek Laeken	87
Environs of Brussels	96
APPENDIX Passport Foreign Legations.	
Principal Bankers English Bank Money	
Changers. — Public Baths. — Restaurateurs.	
- Coffee Houses Hotels Théatres	105
RELAYS OF POST HORSES AND DILIGENCE FOR WA-	
TERLOO CARRIAGES AND HORSES ON HIRE	
Tariff for the Hire of Coaches on the various	
Stands in Brussels Omnibus to Laeken and	
Anderlecht	112

THE END.







